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www.saipantribune.com 50¢ Volume XXII, Issue No. 66 **MONDAY MARCH 19, 2012**



Do you support the proposal to include the CNMI in the national food stamp program?

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Yes	135
No	42
Undecided	6
No opinion	9
Sunday, March 18, 2012	

INSIDE

BUSINESS



Death, taxes and now health insurance? Having a medical plan or else paying a fine is about to become another certainty of American life, unless the Supreme Court ➤ PAGE 14



The massacre of 16 Afghan civilians was a dagger to the U.S.-led coalition's hearts and minds campaign, which was already in decline after 10 years of war. **➤ PAGE 16**

LIFE & STYLE



Mike Daisey, the off-Broadway performer who admitted that he made up parts of his one-man show about Apple products being made in Chinese sweatshops, has cut questionable sections from the monologue and added a prologue explaining the controversy. **➤ PAGE 19**

14 students strike gold in regional NFL. PAGE 2 Fitial orders transfer of Passport Office from OAG to Finance. PAGE 3

Few options to stop mass exit of foreign workers after 2014



By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

ost of the over 11,000 foreign workers being applied a Commonwealth-only worker permit are not likely to qualify for nonimmigrant or immigrant visa classifications available under the Immigration and Nationality Act such as an H1B when the federalization transition period ends on Dec. 31, 2014, leaving the CNMI economy in limbo unless parties affected know this early which of the limited options will be pursued to avoid a mass exit of legal foreign workers and foreign investments depending on them.

Only a few options are available at this time, and each of them is drawing differ-

See MASS EXIT on Page 4

FOREIGN BUSINESS FELLOWSHIP

House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), left, and Commerce Secretary Sixto Igisomar, second from left, look on during Friday's welcoming ceremonies at Aqua Resort Club for the Full Gospel Businessmen Fellowship International which brought to Saipan over 80 foreign investors from China, Hawaii, and California. The three-day religious-based business fellowship, led by FGBF international president Richard Shakarian, fourth from right, wrapped up last night. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Senate panel probes MPLT's private land purchase

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations chair Frank Cruz (R-Tinian) said their panel is investigating the Marianas Public Land Trust's purchase of private land despite the fact that public land is available for MPLT to

build its office building.

As part of its probe, the committee asked 13 set of questions and documents from MPLT pursuant to the Open Government Act.

The investigation comes after the Senate rejected the reappointment of Alvaro Santos to serve another term on the MPLT board. It was during Santos'

See SENATE on Page 4

Yonsei Academy students take home 4 gold, 3 silver in Tumon Bay music fest

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

Students of Saipan's Yonsei Academy won four gold and three silver medals in the Tumon Bay Music Festival in Guam held last weekend.

Kang San Kim, Ji Min Lee, A Young Kim, Cloency Chua, Youna Lee, Da

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Yonsei Academy's young pianists who won gold and silver awards in the recent Tumon Bay Music Festival in Guam gather for a group photo with their instructor. The school went home with four gold and three silver medals from various solo competitions last weekend.



Hyun Hyun, and Doyi Lee bagged the competition's four gold and three silver medals in various solo competitions.

Twelfth grader Doyi Lee bagged the gold medal award for his remarkable performance of "I'd Give My Life for You" from the musical Miss Saigon. Lee is a student from Saipan Southern High School and was commended by the jurors for a great theatrical performance.

Also winning a gold medal was Ji Min Lee, a 10th grader from SSHS, who played "F. Liszt No. 3 in D flat Major."

A pianist by heart, Lee told Saipan Tribune that music helps her better communicate and express herself.

See YONSEI on Page 4

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Local

ONETH G. DEPC

Gold medalists in the regional NFL competition gather for a group photo after the awards rites Saturday night at Marianas High School's Dolphin Theater. The team will advance to Indiana in June for the national competition. Team members included Se Young Hwang, Eunice Park, Dong Hee Im, Anastasia Schweiger, Abel Pellegrino, Janela Rivilla, Matthew Lopez, Ageline Sahagun, Midori Nishida, Angela Mamaril, Almond Legaspi, Francis Fidelinao, Terence Ho, and Anne Gelika Elenzano.

14 students strike gold in regional NFL

» NMI team to advance in national competition

By MONETH G. DEPOSA moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com

Fourteen students will represent the CNMI in the National Forensic League competition after bagging gold medals in the regional contest last Saturday at the Marianas High School.

The CNMI team, comprised of students from public and private high schools, will vie for national titles against students from 53 other U.S. states terri-

tories and the event set for June 9 in Indiana.

Winners of the gold medals in the rigorous and tensed competition are Marianas Baptist Academy's Se Young Hwang for foreign extemporaneous; MBA's Eunice Park for U.S. extemporaneous; MBA's Dong Hee Im for Lincoln Douglas Debate; Mount Carmel School's Anastasia Schweiger for oratorical; Saipan International School's Abel Pellegrino for humorous interpretation; MCS' Janela Rivilla for dramatic interpretation; and the tandem of Marianas High School's Matthew Lopez and Ageline Sahagun for duo interpretation.

Gold medal awards were also conferred to Calvary Christian Academy's Midori Nishida for expository; Grace Christian Academy's Angela Mamaril for commentary; MBA's Almond Legaspi for prose; MHS' Francis Fidelinao for poetry; GCA's Terence Ho for impromptu; and MCS' Anne Gelika Elenzano for storytelling.

Every year, the CNMI sends delegates to various NFL events and has been consistent in getting good results, returning with numerous awards and recognitions.

CNMI NFL board chair Harold Easton told *Saipan Tribune* that for many years of competing in the national NFL level, lo-

cal students successfully ranked in the nation's top lists and even the Top 10 which is an amazing testament to the success of the program in the Commonwealth.

"We expect our students to do their absolute best to represent the CNMI very well and as long as they do that, we're happy," Easton said after the awarding rites Saturday night at the Dolphin Theater. It was revealed that this year, over 100 high school contenders joined the NFL competition on island. He is looking forward to another fun and exciting moments for the CNMI Team in the national events

MBA's Dong Hee Im told Saipan Tribune that she was surprised of the recognition. The student has been in the NFL and NJFL competitions since her seventh grade and this year marked her sixth time—her last—for the competition.

"I'm not really expecting to win this time and I was surprised. I am happy and proud that even in my last year, I will be joining the national team for the CNMI. I am grateful to my coaches and my school for their full support all throughout these years," she told *Saipan Tribune*. Im competed in three categories and emerged first place winners in two categories while second place for the other one.

See NFL on Page 4

MHS says Female students experience 'sexual advances'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Marianas High School interim principal Cherlyn Cabrera disclosed that some of the school's female students have experienced sexual advances in recent days outside the campus.

In a letter to parents and guardians, Cabrera described the situation as very serious and said the offenders are still wandering the island.

"I would like to alert you of

several incidents that have occurred over the past few days off our school campus. We have received reports of men making sexual advances toward several of our female students," the principal said in a memorandum to parents and guardians last week.

According to Cabrera, two incidents occurred at the school bus stop at the Airport Road area while one incident happened in Chalan Kanoa as a student was on her way from church. Another sexual harassment was reported to the principal in Garapan while a female student was walking from a store on her way home.

The principal informed the parents and guardian that all these four incidents were re-

ported to the Department of Public Safety and are being investigated.

Cabrera asked the cooperation of the parents and stakeholders in protecting the safety of all students.

"We ask you to please take extra precautionary measures to ensure your child's safety and to talk to your children about safety. One suggestion is to ask your children to be with their fellow classmates when walking to and from school and to the bus stations," she said.

Cabrera urged everyone to immediately report to police any suspicious activity, adding that both schools and community can work together to address the safety and welfare of all students.

MHS is the largest public school on island and is home to over a thousand students every year.

This week, Cabrera reported that classes will be only up to Wednesday as the PSS state-wide professional development is scheduled for Thursday while Friday is CNMI Covenant Day. Cabrera lauded the parents continued partnership with the school in striving toward high student achievement and excellence for all students.



Fitial orders transfer of Passport Office from OAG to Finance

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Gov. Benigno R. Fitial issued an executive order transferring the administration and operation of the CNMI Passport Office from the Office of the Attorney General to the Department of Finance to help ensure the program's operational and administrative efficiency.

Fitial signed executive order 2012-1 on Feb. 6, weeks before issuing another EO which placed the Commonwealth

of emergency.

However, the Legislature received a copy of the first executive order only on March 8, or a little over a month after it was

Article III Section 15 of the NMI Constitution authorizes the governor to make changes in the allocation of offices, agencies and instrumentalities and their functions and duties that are necessary for efficient administration.

The CNMI Passport Office

Healthcare Corp. under a state is currently organized under the OAG's Division of Immigration, which is no longer a functional element of the OAG.

> The Passport Office collects more than \$300,000 a year in passport fees. It also processes more than 3,000 passport applications annually.

> Fitial said Finance not only has greater expertise in monitoring financial transactions than does OAG, but also has greater experience in the processing of applications than does OAG.

Now, therefore, to promote

efficient administration and operation of the Passport Office, it is hereby ordered: That Attorney General shall relinquish responsibility for the administration and operation of the Passport Office; and the Department of Finance shall assume responsibility for the administration and operation of the

Pursuant to the Constitution, this plan becomes effective 60 days after submission to the Legislature, unless specifically modified or disapproved by a majority of the members of each house of the Legislature.

Passport Office," the governor

said in his two-page EO.

However, because the governor signed it on Feb. 6 but a copy was not transmitted to the Legislature until March 8, it's not readily confirmed whether the effective date would be 60 days after Feb. 6 or 60 days after March 8.

In case it appears to the governor that the interest of economy or efficient management requires that the transfer be delayed beyond the date the plan becomes effective, the governor may, in his discretion, fix a later date. He could also defer such date from time to time.



Reorganizations

The transfer of the Passport Office to Finance is just among the recent reorganizations that the governor has implemented in the past year.

On Dec. 29, Fitial placed the Medicaid Office under the Office of the Governor and away from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., formalizing what his administration has

This was among the recommendations made by the independent Virginia-based firm, Management Analysis Inc., which reviewed both DCCA and the Department of Public Safety.

Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos, in an interview, said the Fitial administration has been considering MAI recommendations. But he said the merger of DPS and the Department of Corrections has been taking longer than expected because of funding issues, among other things. He said transfers of DCCA offices under other agencies are also still under review.

ON MAYOR FLORES' LAWSUIT VS 2 BANKS

Union Bank files cross-claim vs First Hawaiian Bank

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

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Union Bank, formerly known as Union Bank of California, has filed a cross-claim complaint against First Hawaiian Bank in connection with Saipan Mayor Donald G. Flores' lawsuit against the two banks.

Union Bank, through counsel

Sean E. Frink, filed the complaint against FHB for indemnification, and contributory fault and contribution.

Frink asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to held FHB responsible for the payment of all damages claimed by Flores.

Frink said if Union Bank is found liable to Flores in any amount, the damages must be apportioned according to the respective liability of all of the parties in the lawsuit.

Flores

Flores is suing the two banks for allegedly refusing to return the principal and interest earned

of a Time Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$200,000 that he purchased from the then Union Bank Saipan Branch in

Flores is suing the banks for breach of contract, unjust enrichment, negligence or gross negligence, breach of fiduciary duty, and fraud.

On Nov. 15, 2001, Union

Bank reportedly sold all assets and liabilities of its Saipan branch office to FHB.

FHB then moved to dismiss the lawsuit. UBC joined in the motion to dismiss. Last month, U.S.

District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona granted FHB's motion to dismiss Flores' all causes of action.

Manglona dismissed with prejudice Flores' claims against Union Bank for unjust enrichment and gross negligence. Manglona also dismissed without prejudice the mayor's claims for breach of fiduciary duty and fraud against Union Bank.

The judge dismissed with prejudice Flores' claims of uniust enrichment and gross negligence against FHB. She dismissed without prejudice the mayor's all other claims against the bank.

Dismissal with prejudice means the case cannot be reopened. Dismissal without prejudice allows plaintiff to re-file a new suit on the same claim/s.

Flores then filed a first amended complaint against the two banks

In Union Bank's answer and cross claim, Frink said without admitting any liability, if liability were or is found against Union Bank, it is entitled to indemnity against FHB, as well as all co-defendants, under contractual and/or common law principles.

Frink said without admitting any liability, Union Bank has a right to apportionment of damages and contribution from FHB for any damages for which Union Bank may ultimately be found liable, if any.

been saving all along. On April 27, the governor ordered the transfer of manage-

ment and control of the Juvenile Detention Unit from the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs to the Department of

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SENATE

From Page 1

term as MPLT board chair that MPLT bought a private property.

MPLT chair Pedro Deleon Guerrero, in an interview yesterday, confirmed that they received a copy of Cruz's letter last week, or days after the date of the letter, which was March 9.

Deleon Guerrero, a former House speaker, said MPLT has been compiling the documents requested, and they expect to submit these documents to

the Senate EAGI Committee this week.

He also said the purchase of the private property happened before he was appointed to serve on the MPLT board of trustees.

"Yes I can confirm that we received a copy of the letter just a few days ago, and not on March 9. We are compiling the documents they requested," Deleon Guerrero told Saipan Tribune.

Cruz, in his two-page letter, said the Senate EAGI Committee is "disturbed" by the former MPLT chairman's "failure to comply with our request for information and documents regarding MPLT's purchase of private land."

"It is important to know why MPLT would purchase private land and not utilize or purchase public land for any of its needs," the EAGI chairman told Deleon Guerrero and MPLT vice chair Peter Q. Cruz.

Among the Senate panel's 13 sets of questions is whether an MPLT board meeting was held in which the purchase of private land was discussed and approved, and whether there was a proper notice of that meeting.

The Senate panel also asked whether there was a quorum at that meeting,

ent at that meeting take any fiduciary responsibility class prior to the meeting? If yes, which board member? Did

"Did any of the board members pres-

and who the members present were.

they pass the class or become certified?" the committee asked. It also asked whether there was an

appraisal of the private property bought by MPLT. The committee also asked MPLT to provide a copy of the appraisal report, purchase agreement, bill or sale or receipt, as well as a copy of a cancelled check used to pay for the private land.

Another government official asked what the Senate EAGI Committee

would do with the results of its investigation, when they already recommended to the full Senate to reject the reappointment of Santos to serve another term on the MPLT board. By a vote of 6-2, the Senate rejected Santos's reappointment, during the same night session when the Senate rejected a House bill legalizing casino gambling on Saipan.

The Senate panel recommended rejection of Santos' reappointment over MPLT's purchase of private land under Santos's term prior to having all the information from MPLT regarding such transaction. Santos now works at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

YONSEI

From Page 1

Two other gold medalists in the competition were ninth grader Cloency Chua who played "F. Schumann Fantasy C Major Op. 17" and A Young Kim, also a ninth grader, who impressed adjudicators in his piece "F. Chopin Etude op. No. 12 C minor." The two are from SSHS.

Yonsei Academy's silver awardees were 12th grader Kang San Kim who played "F. Liszt Paganini-Etuden 3 La Campanella"; and Youna Lee, 8th

grade from Marianas Baptist Academy and played "F. Chopin Fantasie-Impromptu op. 66."

According to Youna Lee, the Tumon Bay fest was her first music competition after learning to play the piano. Although she admitted being nervous during the competition, she was thankful that she did well in her performance and met expectations.

Another silver medal recipient in the competition was Da Hyun Hyun, 7th grader from William S. Reyes Elementary School, who played "L. Van Beethoven Sonata in C minor op. 13."

According to the academy's instruc-

tor, Youngmi Han, the students spent six months in preparation for the Tumon Bay festival. This marked the academy's third time to join the competition in Guam.

To showcase the academy students' musical talents, Youngmi Han plans to hold a mini-concert on island in May

Yonsei Academy is a school of piano, violin, and cello. Young Mi Han graduated from Gyeonsang National University in Korea with a bachelor's degree in music education. Prior to coming to Saipan, she taught music in high school in Korea for 13 years.

NFL

From Page 2

MCS' Anastasia Schweiger also voted to do her best in the national event. This year marked her fifth time in the NFL and the third time to be in the national team. In 2009, she brought honor to the CNMI after she was named in the nation's Top 5 in impromptu speaking. Last Saturday, Schweiger competed in two categories where she both bagged first place awards for her selfcomposed speeches.

Schweiger said it is her goal to finish among the nation's Top 100 before she graduate from high school. The students look forward for another fun and learning experience in their upcoming trip.

GCA's Angela Mamaril, who has been in the national competition once, vowed to give her best again. Saying her latest win was unexpected, she credited her coaches and her school for their hard work and support. Mamaril competed in four categories of the competition and bagged the gold medal award for commentary.

MASS EXIT

From Page 1

The options include, but are not limited to, the extension of the transition period, applying for and being granted INA visas for as many foreign workers qualified as possible, a grant of improved immigration status such as permanent residency or pathway to U.S. citizenship to long-term legal foreign workers, or returning to the CNMI government the control of local immigration.

Without these options, the estimated over 10,000 foreign workers who do not qualify for any INA visa today probably won't qualify for the same visas two years from now will have to leave the CNMI.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday the Fitial administration stands by its position in favor of extending the transition period "because we recognize that the Commonwealth has yet to establish a fully viable resident workforce."

This means most foreign workers who are not qualified for any INA visa could still be allowed to have CW permits at least five years after 2014 or until 2019.

"The governor has made this known since last year. In fact, even Delegate Kilili (Sablan) is backing the extension of the transition period," Demapan told Saipan Tribune.

He said from the onset of federalization, the Fitial administration encouraged foreign workers to do the right thing and always prepare for the least favorable scenario.

"Today, the administration reiterates that stance. Do not be fooled by the rallies, motorcades, and demonstrations. They only lead to donations that will enrich the few people making promises that will never happen. It is more prudent for foreign workers to ensure that they have money saved for when it is time to return home or move elsewhere," Demapan said.

The CNMI relies heavily on foreign workers for many jobs, from engineers, architects, teachers, nurses, certified public accountants, waiters, hotel employees, farmers, housemaids, technicians, repairmen, and construction workers, among other things.

'Limit the suffering'

Wendy Doromal, a Florida-based human rights activist and a former Rota teacher, said instead of trying to haphazardly run a CNMI-only federal immigration program to regulate foreign workers-most of whom have lived and worked in the CNMI for many years and decades—"why not cut the expenses and eliminate the suffering by granting permanent residency to the legal, long-term foreign workers?"

"There is absolutely no reason to extend the transition period after 2014. Why continue an expensive and unorganized CNMI-only guest worker program that represents just another bureaucratic nightmare for the workers? Give them permanent residency now and end the need to continue the program," Doromal told Saipan Tribune.

Reynaldo Gozon, 55, said if the extension of the transition period is the most viable option for most foreign workers like him, then he would have no qualms about it.

"I don't qualify for H visa now, and I don't think I will qualify either in two years' time. Extension is good, but it would be better if the federal government just grants us improved status," said Gozon, who came to Saipan in 1997 to work as a heavy equipment operator. He now works as a ground maintenance employee.

The father of three said as long as his employer needs his service, he would stay put. He is now waiting for the result of the CW application filed by his employer on his behalf.

'No way to replace foreign workers soon'

Richard Pierce, executive director of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, said vesterday "it would take greater critical mass, and therefore be less attainable, to pass federal legislation for any change in status for those CW-1 visa holders allowing them to stay and work in the CNMI after 2014, than to simply extend the transition period another five, or 10, years as currently allowed under P.L. 110-229."

Pierce said the U.S. Department of Labor, in his opinion, will do this.

"It's simply easier to follow the law than change it. Make no mistake about it. There's no way to replace those eventual 12,000 CW-1 holders with qualified U.S. workers in the CNMI. Certainly not when this economy begins to improve, which it will," he said.

Precilla Villafuerte, 39, said she would like to continue working on Saipan for her daughter who was born here, and to help her family back in the Philippines.

"It would be a big help if they extend the transition. If they want to improve our status, then I'm thankful. But we always have to be prepared," she said.

Villafuerte came to Saipan in 1992 to work as a sewer in a garment factory. When the garment industry pulled out, she started working as a housemaid. She's also now waiting for the result of the CW petitioned filed on her behalf.

She said it would be hard to replace all foreign workers who are legally working in the CNMI right now, in two years' time.

'Disappointing'

Doromal said she's disappointed with the way the federal government has handled the transition from CNMI immigration to the federal system.

"The delays and slow processing of the CW permits have created extreme hardship for the foreign workers, their families and employers," she said.

For example, three months after the deadline for employers to petition foreign workers for CW permits, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has processed only about 1,000 CW applications of the estimated 5,000 petitions filed covering 11, 200 foreign workers.

Doromal said this demonstrates that the Department of Homeland Security did not plan properly to ensure a smooth and orderly transition.

"Obviously, there are not enough employees assigned to process the applications. It certainly appears that the CNMI's guest worker program is not a priority with DHS. How many more months (or years) will it take for the remaining applications to be processed? Where is the congressional oversight?" she said.

Local control

Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan), for his part, said the CNMI should be given back control of its own immigration if the federal government cannot do its job as mandated by PL 110-229, the law that placed CNMI immigration under federal control.

He cited as an example the U.S. immigration court. He said the judicial process "I believe does not recognize expediency the way the governor thinks it should by his prior comments. The constitution says a person shall be given due process and a right to a speedy trial."

Doromal, meanwhile, said as long as members of U.S. Congress continue to defer to the position of the CNMI delegate regarding island concerns, "we should not expect the U.S. Congress to extend permanent residency to the foreign contract workers."

"As long as there are members of the Hispanic and Asian Pacific American Caucuses—the so-called 'immigration champions'—supporting permanent residency for 11 million undocumented aliens and an inferior status, one step above slavery for only about 1/4 of the 11,000 legal foreign workers, then the chance of permanent residency for the CNMI's foreign workers looks extremely bleak. If the members of Congress who claim to be pro-immigrant cannot be trusted to do right by the CNMI foreign workers, then who can?" she said.

Rene Reyes, founding president of the Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd. or Mahal, said employers can apply for H visas for their employees but there's no guarantee they will be approved because of the nature of their jobs.

He said he hopes the U.S. Congress will finally act on the U.S. Department of the Interior's recommendations to grant improved status to long-term foreign workers in the CNMI.

"It's not being selfish if foreign workers wish to have improved status. They still want to continue to contribute to the local economy," he said.

'Unacceptable'

Doromal said CNMI leaders do not view the foreign workers, even those who have lived in the CNMI for decades —as equal community members or as future citizens.

"It is obvious by comments from the

governor and legislators, and from Sablan's H.R. 1466 that there is no leader in the CNMI who would offer any legitimate, just and democratic status to the foreign workers. The only status on the table is unacceptable because it does not include all of the legal, longterm foreign workers, would maintain their disenfranchisement and chains them to the CNMI," she said.

She said she does not recommend that any foreign worker stay in the CNMI under the current political and economic conditions if they have an opportunity to leave.

"I do not support a system that offers no job security, no assurance of being paid or of recovering wages that employers have stolen; and provides no possibility upgraded status or pathway to citizenship for the majority of the legal, long-term workers. It is un-American and undemocratic," she said.

Doromal added that there is no incentive for foreign workers to stay in a place "where the only public hospital is nearly bankrupt, the dental clinics have closed, public schools are rationing power or having it cut, the CUC is barely able to pay for fuel to run the generators, the crime rate has skyrocketed and unscrupulous employers continue to steal wages without suffering any consequences for their crimes.'

"Without a job that would qualify a foreign worker for a visa that would eventually provide a pathway to citizenship, I am not sure the suffering and conditions are worth staying to see if things will change," she said.

Doromal said while she will continue to advocate for justice and permanent residency for the legal, long-term foreign workers, "it would be irresponsible for me to advise them to remain in a place where their wellbeing is at risk; where the wellbeing of their children and family members is at risk."

"We have to hope that the upcoming elections will result in changes that will result in justice finally being realized for the foreign workers and their families," she said.

PL 110-229, signed into law on May 8, 2008, extended most provisions of the INA to the CNMI for the first time. There is a transitional period ending in 2014.

Fund lawsuit vs Merrill Lynch moving forward ferred a jury to decide the case rather than an arbitration but

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

The lawyer for Commonwealth retirees, who sued the NMI Retirement Fund's former investment consultant Merrill Lynch, described as "good news" that the case has been ordered for arbitration.

Arbitration is a legal technique for the resolution of disputes outside the courts. It is a settlement technique in which a third party reviews the case and imposes a decision that is legally binding for both sides.

Atty. Michael Dotts represented retirees Mariano Taitano, Roman Tudela, and Patricia Guerrero who filed the former investment consultant alleging that the firm had harm the pension agency when it provided "bad" advices to the board of trustees, resulting to millions of losses in its investments.

"After more than two years of struggling with the Retirement Fund, the case against Merrill Lynch is finally moving forward. The case is now heading to arbitration," Dotts told Saipan Tribune in response to the recent order issued by Judge Perry Inos on the case.

In a two-page order by Inos, he stated that "all claims of the individual plaintiffs and the Fund against Merrill Lynch are hereby compelled to arbitration to be conducted by the Financial

Ada then allegedly boarded

Aldan said the girlfriend is

Ada was among three men

who carjacked a pickup truck and

robbed its owner in Koblerville in

July 1999. All defendants pleaded

The federal court sentenced

Ada was also one of the three

detainees who bolted out of the

Susupe prison in October 2009.

Ada to eight years and six

scared for her life and for her

his truck and drove away reck-

Ex-convict asks court to modify bail back into the house and locked

the door.

family members.

guilty in federal court.

months in prison.

(Ferdie de la Torre)

An ex-convict who was arrested last weekend for allegedly beating up his girlfriend and threatening to kill her brother with a knife and a golf club, filed Friday a motion to modify his bail.

Attorney Michael Dotts, who appeared as counsel for defendant Jeronimo S. Ada in the motion to modify bail only, said Ada is unable to pay the \$7,000 cash bail and therefore, remains in jail.

Dotts said Ada is employed and likely to lose his employment if he is not released soon.

Ada, 35, works as a delivery man for a newspaper (not Saipan Tribune).

Dotts said the defendant is able to post an appearance bond secured by a mortgage on two real properties owned by his mother.

The lawyer proposed Ada's mother to be appointed as thirdparty custodian.

The motion hearing will be heard on Monday, March 19.

Detective Peter A. Aldan stated in his report that on the early morning of March 4, 2012 the girlfriend was awakened when Ada was already in her bedroom at her residence in Upper Miha.

Aldan said Ada took the girlfriend's cellphone and left aboard his truck.

A few minutes later, the girlfriend was surprised again when Ada walked into her bedroom despite her already having locked all the doors.

Ada allegedly confronted her of having a lot of numbers on her cellphone, choked her, punched her on the breast, and threatened to kill her.

The girlfriend's brother and his friend were awakened by the shouting. Ada allegedly grabbed a vase and was going to hit the brother.

The girlfriend, however, grabbed the vase. Ada then grabbed a knife from the kitchen and wanted to stab the brother.

The girlfriend bit Ada's arm, causing him to drop the knife on the floor.

The brother lifted Ada and slammed him on the ground in the garage. The brother released Ada, but the defendant grabbed a golf club and threatened to kill him.

The brother and others ran

Industry Regulatory Authority [FINRA] and this matter stayed."

Dotts said because of the order, the case Merrill Lynch filed in federal court will be dismissed and Merrill Lynch will turn over documents to his clients. The Fund, he said, will also provide documents to the plaintiffs who will then arbitrate against the former consultant.

"The order from Judge Inos was the result of a stipulation and is very good news. My clients believe that Merrill Lynch injured the Fund and now they are going to get the chance to

while attorneys Sean Frink and Peter Fruin appeared on behalf prove it. We would have pre-Program launched to make proms more affordable

Dotts said.

By CLARISSA V DAVID

clarissa_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

With the prom season fast approaching, the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence is launching a program dedicated to supporting Saipan's public high school students to attend their school prom.

Project: PROM is an innovative awareness campaign that aims to provide donated prom or special occasion dresses and suits to high school juniors and seniors to make the occasion affordable for them.

Keala Peters, program assistant for the coalition, said their goal is to collect dresses, tuxedos, and accessories throughout the month

Among the donations that will be accepted are prom dresses, bridesmaid dresses, sandals, shoes, accessories, handbags, tuxedos, and vests.

"We hope that recipients will attend their will attend their proms with the attire to feel confident and beautiful, as well as

the tools to make respectful and healthy choices," said Peters.

Ideally, donated items should be recently washed or dry cleaned. Donors are asked to inform the staff if they are unable to do so at the time of drop off.

Coalition volunteer Reina Camacho said donations can be delivered to the coalition office located at Springs Plaza on Chalan Pale Arnold during business hours or other drop off locations, namely Handbags etc. along Beach Road in Oleai; Kagman High School; Marianas High School; and Saipan Southern High School.

Donations can also be brought to the clothing drive on Saturday, March 31, at the Minatchom Atdao along Beach Road in Garapan.

Since the project is also in celebration of the Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April, student recipients will be selected based on their interest in becoming an advocate against sexual violence or assault.

Sexual violence or assault is defined as the intentional contact, use of force, physical threat or abuse of authority when the victim does not or cannot consent and is considered a crime.

at least with an arbitration this

case will move much faster."

and Christopher Timmons rep-

resented the board of trustees

of the Fund during the hearing

Attorneys Brad Huesman

Those who will receive a prom outfit will also benefit from empowering education about healthy relationships and self-expression.

The donated items will be distributed to eligible recipients on April 14 in time for the prom season which begins in late April and continues through mid-May.

During the distribution, a workshop covering topics such as confidence building, prom etiquette, healthy relationships, and hair & makeup tips, will be facilitated by the group Teen Talk will be held at the Multi-Purpose Center from 1pm to 4pm.

For more information, contact Keala Peters at 234-3878 or kealapeters670@gmail.com or Reina Camacho at 664-8512.

of Merrill Lynch.

The three retirees, all members of the defined benefit plan of the pension agency, sued Merrill Lynch for negligence and malpractice for giving "bad advice" to the Fund's board of trustees in 2007. Also named defendants in the case are the Fund's board of trustees and several unnamed individuals.

Auditions on for latest FOA play

The Friends of the Arts' last play of the year is coming up! The Anthony Shaffer mystery, Sleuth, will be performed on April 27, 28, and 29. Here is your chance to be on the stage as part of this production.

The second round of auditions will take place this Sunday, March 18, from 1pm to 5 pm, at the Dolphin Theater, Building T, at Marianas High School. The play has five parts, two male leads and three male secondary or two male secondary and one female secondary roles. The roles require a range in ages from 18 to the 60s.

The two male leads will be one older and one younger. Come to the auditions and try out. If you have never been in an FOA play—that's great—come in and make this your first. Previous FOA cast members are also invited. (FOA)

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'PDO request for interpreter 2 days before jury trial troubling'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman last Friday found it troubling the Public Defender's Office's request for an interpreter two working days before a felony jury trial.

Wiseman said although PDO did raise the issue of the need for an interpreter for the trial of Aquilino C. Castillo, the court assumed that other pretrial interpreter needs were accommodated.

Wiseman said assistant public defender Benjamin K. Petersburg informed the court on Wednesday that he became aware of a communication problem between him and his client that is claimed to be so poor that he can not proceed and finds it necessary to continue the trial.

The trial of Castillo, a carpenter, was originally set for March 19, 2011. Following PDO's request, Wiseman ordered that the new jury trial date is July 23, 2012 at 9am.

"The Public Defender's Office, and in particular, Counsel for Defendant in this matter as well as all counsel practicing before this Court are placed on notice that they must be more diligent in handling future cases in order that this scenario does not repeat itself, a scenario the court will not tolerate in future cases," said the judge in a written order yesterday.

The Office of the Attorney General charged the 58-yearold Castillo with eight counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree, and eight counts of assault and battery that involved six minors between pleaded not

guilty. At motions hearing on Wednesday, assistant at-

torney general Nicole Driscoll appeared for the government. Petersburg represented Castillo.

Castillo filed three pretrial motions on March 7, 2012 or eight business days prior to trial. The OAG also filed a motion regarding child witness procedures on Tuesday or the day before the motions hearing.

In denying the motions, Wiseman said the pretrial order in this case states that all pretrial motions must be filed 10 business days prior to trial.

Wiseman cited his order on Dec. 30, 2011 in a separate criminal case in which he noted that many lawyers have been very lax with respect to compliance with the court's pretrial orders.

In that order, Wiseman stressed that he will consider imposing sanctions for violation of pretrial order beginning with the New Year 2012.

The judge said based on that previous ruling and the pretrial order in Castillo's case, he deems the defendant's motions untimely and as such will not entertain them.

Subsequent to Wiseman's rul-March to August 2011. He ing denying the motions, Castillo, through >> Wiseman denies as

his counsel, stated that he untimely motions wanted a new of defendant in sex attorney.

abuse of minors case Petersburg stated that he

does not believe that defendant has fully understood several issues in this prosecution.

Wiseman felt it necessary to have an interpreter present and continued the matter to 1:30pm that same day, Wednesday, March 14. During the resumption of the hearing, the judge, through an interpreter, explained to Castillo that he was not entitled to select his own attorney appointed unless he has the funds to retain his own lawyer.

Wiseman further found that Castillo is represented by Petersburg, a competent counsel, which satisfies defendant's constitutional entitlement to effective assistance of counsel.

Petersburg then referred to Castillo's motion filed on that day, March 14, to appoint an interpreter and continue the jury trial.

does not believe that Castillo has fully understood the ramifications of the charges against him and the case in general

munication and by not having an interpreter.

In his order, Wiseman said he, of course, can not proceed

Petersburg explained that he due to lack of effective com- to trial under such circumstances as it would be a violation of Castillo's due process rights to do so. He rescheduled the trial for July 23, 2012.

Man gets 30-day jail term for beating wife before 2 children

judge Perry B. Inos has imposed a 30-day jail term on a man who beat up his wife before their two minor children.

Inos sentenced Edward Bai last week to two years in prison, all suspended except for 30 days, for one count of assault and battery, and two counts of disturbing the peace.

>>> Defendant says no

more alcohol, 10

to a family man

days in jail turn him

Inos gave the 45-yearold Bai credit for 10 the days he al-

ready served in jail.

The defendant was ordered to start serving the jail term at the Department of Corrections on Friday, March 23, at

After completing the jail sentence, the defendant will be placed on probation for two years. He was required to pay a \$500 fine, \$25 court assessment fee, plus probation and restitution fees.

Bai was ordered to com-

plete 52 sessions of anger management counseling and submit alcohol and drug assessment

Inos prohibited Bai from consuming or possessing any alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs during his probation.

The Office of the Attorney General charged the defendant with one count of assault and battery, and three counts

> of disturbing the peace.

> Bai and c o u n s e l signed a plea agreement with the gov-

ernment. He pleaded guilty to assault and battery, and two counts of disturbing the peace.

According to the plea agreement, on Nov. 12, 2011 on Saipan, Bai pushed, kicked, and punched his wife multiple times in the head and all over her body.

The couple's two minor children saw Bai beating their mother.

Before the sentencing, the

wife asked the court to impose a lenient sentence on Bai, saying she had already forgiven her husband.

In a letter, the wife said she and their children love Bai very much and that they want to spend more time with him at home where they all belong.

"My children and I have seen the difference in attitude and behavior since his 10 days in jail. He now realizes how important his family is and how prayer keeps us together as a family," the wife said.

In a letter to Inos, Bai after spending 10 days in jail he now realizes how important his wife and children are to him

"While in jail, I was able to come to terms with the fact that most of the trivial issues I dealt with were due to being under the influence of alcohol. I have not had a drink since my release from jail and I am proud to report that my wife and children are very happy with the new me," Bai said. (Ferdie de la Torre)

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-12-009

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF WATER DIVISION ANNUAL MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Water Division Annual Materials for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials based on bids for "Commodity

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-12-009, Supply & Delivery of Water Division Annual Materials", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than April 4, 2012 at 10:00 AM, (ChST) at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods.

Bidders will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions with regards to CUC-RFP-12-009 must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on March 19, 2012 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Joel Hoepner, CUC Water/Wastewater Division Engineer via email joel.hoepner@cucgov.org and Janina Muna, CUC Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email mika.muna@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

> ABE UTU MALAE **Executive Director**

SVES wins \$8K in McDonald's fundraiser

By MONETH G. DEPOSA moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com

REPORTER

Vicente Elementary School was named the grand prize winner of McDonald's Saipan anniversary fundraiser and will be awarded \$8,000 cash prize for topping the competition among public elementary schools.

McDonald's Saipan human resource and marketing manager Ana Olaes disclosed that over 53,000 in total coupons on Wednesday at the store's

were turned in by nine participating schools at the end of the tabu-

lation on 2pm Saturday.

SVES, which led the race in its second week, successfully maintained its standing after it recorded a total of 11.475 points in the competition's final counting.

The grand prize winner was just slightly head of second place Garapan Elementary School, which turned in 9.615 points and will receive \$2,000 cash prize from the fastfood company. In third place is San Antonio Elementary School which will receive \$1,000 cash prize after garnering 8.010 points in

the final counting.

Other participating schools have the following points during Saturday's final counting: William S. Reyes Elementary School (6.948 points); Koblerville Elementary School (5.789 points); Oleai Elementary School (5.752); Tanapag School School (2.433 points); Dandan Elementary School (2.140 points); and Kagman Elementary School (1.817 points). Awarding rites will be

Middle Road » Nine public elemen-

tary schools turned In a visit hundreds of

customers—all endorsing coupons for their schools—were seen lining up at the counter as early as 10am. Olaes said the overall coupon turnout was unexpected and said McDonald's Saipan is grateful for the community's support to the school children.

The manager disclosed that they were touched by the messages seen in many coupons which were especially written by public school students themselves. Olaes said the overwhelming turnout of the fundraiser is an indication of the community and families'

continued support to the needs of the public schools.

"We're very proud and extremely happy because through this fundraiser, we can help children in public schools. The success of this campaign is not possible without the help of families and community members," she told Saipan Tribune

She added that McDonald's Saipan was also overwhelmed to see a great number of families spending time and sharing meals with their children all throughout the campaign period which was from Feb. in over 53K coupons at the store Saturday, 25 to March 17. Olaes especially noted the hard work of many students whom they saw distributing their school coupons in some public areas and events.

This is the first time that McDonald's Saipan, the island's leading fast food restaurant, inked a partnership with the CNMI Public School System as the company celebrated its 19th year of service to the people of the island.

McDonald's is known for its great service to the community. In 2009, the same type of fundraiser was held for the private schools. Last year, it extended its helping hand to the NMI American Red Cross.

NMC students receive '12 Business Woman of the Year scholarship

By CLARISSA V. DAVID

clarissa david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

First Hawaiian Bank and Guam Business Magazine recognized the outstanding achievements of six Northern Marianas College students by awarding them scholarships valued at \$10.885 in a ceremony at the bank's Gualo Rai branch last Thursday.

The scholarship is part of the Businesswoman of the Year Award program aimed at promoting higher education through financial assistance for college students pursuing professional careers at the NMC, the University of Guam, and Guam Community College.

The Saipan recipients for the 2012 scholarship awards were Nazario-Omar P. Ajoste and Jatanna P. Cabrera, who were awarded \$1,640 each; Marie Luise L. Del Carmen and Kathleen D. Laurio, who each received \$1,735; Alvijane F. Manabat, \$2,115; and Anne Julia P. Padilla, \$2,020.

"I'm proud that I was selected as one of the recipients," said accounting student Manabat, 19, who has two other scholarships that help her financially. "Now I don't' have to worry about paying my tuition."

Laurio, who is taking up a business course with emphasis on computer applications,

said she was confident that she will be chosen for the scholarship program. "You can't doubt yourself all the time. I'm pretty glad that I got it because this would help a lot in my academic costs since I attended college."

Twenty-year-old Anne Padilla revealed that this is her second time to win the scholarship. "I'm glad that I took this opportunity because there's not much opportunities in a place like this. I'm glad that FHB and Guam Business Magazine are helping out the community, considering the economic downturn we're suffering right now."

Padilla advised other students to grab every opportunity that comes their way, even if it means having to lose at one point. "One of my teachers taught me that adversity creates character and I always live by that phrase."

Two more students from Guam also received scholarship funds worth \$4,820 in a separate presentation on March 16. This brings the total amount of scholarships awarded for academic year 2011 to 2012 to \$32,085.

ed based on the students' total number of credit hours enrolled in the fall semester, their grades, involvement in the community, and potential to become successful businesspeople. They were also required to submit a

All scholarships were award-

written essay and evidence of so proud of that," she added. financial need.

Laura-Lvnn V. Dacanav. FHB senior vice president and region manager for Guam and CNMI, said this is the 7th year of the Business Woman of the Year program which gets its funding from the annual fundraising gala.

"For this semester, we got six students from Saipan and we're afford their education through

Guam Business Magazine publisher Maureen Maratita, for her part, said they are pleased to have helped students for two semesters this academic year "and we hope it's a tradition we're going to continue."

According to NMC president Sharon Hart, 80 percent of their students are able to

the scholarships they receive.

"This could really make the difference in our students' lives and so we thank the business community for coming together to help these students who make all of us very proud," said Hart.

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos, who also attended Thursday's ceremony, congratulated the students and advised them to study hard and consider the added Inos.

scholarship as "a blessing" since financial resources for education purposes are "hard to come by" at this time.

"To the business community, thank you for taking this opportunity to contribute to a good cause. I do hope you will continue to support the education of our children because they are our future leaders,"

awsuit filed by mason hit by golf ball dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

REPORTER

The federal court has dismissed a construction company from a lawsuit filed by a mason who sued after he was allegedly injured when an errant golf ball hit him at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona M. Manglona on Friday ruled that she finds that the addition of Saipan Daewoo Engineering and Construction Co. Ltd. as a defendant in plaintiff Severino U. Alforeza's first amended complaint "destroys diversity jurisdicton."

Manglona said Alforeza asked that, in the event the court found diversity jurisdiction is destroyed, Daewoo be dismissed from the lawsuit as a dispensable party so that the court may retain jurisdiction

of the case.

The judge noted that on motion or on its own, the court may at any time, on just terms, add or drop a party.

Manglona said Daewoo's motion to dismiss and Alforeza's cross motion for summary

judgment and default against Daewoo are moot.

Alforeza filed the original lawsuit on April 13, 2011. He sued Saipan LauLau Development Inc., owner of LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort and unnamed codefendant for negligence.

On Dec. 15, 2011, Alforeza filed an amended lawsuit, adding Daewoo and John Jones as co-defendants for negligence.

Manglona

Alforeza, through attorney Joe Hill, asked the court to hold the defendants liable to pay him damages over the injuries (inguinal hernia) he suffered.

Alforeza alleged that on July 18, 2009, while he was lowering heavy metal rebars down to fellow workers at the sewage facility excavation

hole inside the golf course, a golf ball, presumably hit by an unknown golfer, struck him on the chest.

Daewoo, through counsel Colin Thompson, said the court should dismiss Alforeza's claim

against the company because the claim is barred by the applicable statute of limitation.

Citing a precedent court ruling, Manglona said an alien may not maintain a suit in diversity against another alien: "Where an alien is made

co-defendant with a citizendefendant by an alien plaintiff-there is no jurisdiction over the alien. If the alien is indispensable...there is no jurisdiction at all."

Manglona said Alforeza, a Filipino, is a foreign citizen for diversity purposes.

The judge said in an application filed by Daewoo with the CNMI Department of Commerce in 2011, Daewoo attests that it was organized under the Republic of Korea laws, it is presently incorporated in the ROK, its principal office is in Seoul, and it not presently transacting any business in the CNMI.

"Based on these facts, Daewoo is a foreign citizen for diversity purposes, and Alforeza has destroyed diversity by adding Daewoo as a defendant," Manglona said. (Ferdie de la Torre)



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES RFQ12-GOV-052



Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting statements of qualification (SOQ) from licensed architectural and engineering firms (A&E) for the Design of the Puerto Rico Reservoir Replacement Project, Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The full Request for Qualifications (RFQ) documents may be obtained by contacting Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager, by telephone at (670) 664-2274 or by email at psas@saipan.com. All questions concerning this proposal shall be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 pm, March 30, 2012 to Mr. Sasamoto by facsimile at (670) 664-2279.

The design and construction of the Puerto Rico Reservoir Replacement Project is made possible by a grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), U.S. Department of Commerce. All elements of the construction process shall meet standards of the EDA. The EDA grant is matched by a grant from the Office of the Insular Affairs (OIA), U.S. Department of the Interior and requires a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

One original and four (4) copies shall be submitted to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 2:00 PM, (CNMI local time), on April 16, 2012.

The SOQ shall be marked "Puerto Rico Reservoir Replacement Project, RFQ12-GOV-052". For firms within the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of SOQ must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m. (CNMI local time), on April 16, 2012. Firms located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 2:00 p.m. (CNMI local time), on April 16, 2012, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or email procurement@pticom.com. For firms located outside the CNMI, one original and four (4) copies of SOQ must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than April 16, 2012 AND must be received no later than April 25, 2012. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all SOQ and to waive any imperfections in any SOQ if to do so shall be in the best interests of the CNMI. All SOQ shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

> /s/ Benigno R. Fitial Governor, CNMI

/s/ Herman S. Sablan Director, Procurement & Supply



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INVITATION TO BID ITB12-GOV-055 **Roof Repair & Coating for Six Government Buildings** In Capitol Hill

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, are soliciting sealed bids for the Roof Repair & Coating for Six Government Buildings in Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available Tuesday, March 20, 2012 at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A \$25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

There will be Pre-bid Conference/Site Visit for this project on April 5, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at the CIP Office. Bidders are encouraged to visit the site to familiarize themselves with the site conditions prior to submitting their bid. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on April 10, 2012 to Ms. Elizabeth Balajadia of the Capital Improvement Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked "ITB12-GOV-055". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, April 23, 2012. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of \acute{P} rocurement & Supply no later than) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than April 23, 2012 and must be received no later than May 3, 2012. Note that failure to submit the required number of

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, May 7, 2012. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 10:30 a.m. Saipan local time, on April 23, 2012.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000,00) a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNM Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. The security company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must be U.S. Treasury listed and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond. Performance time for completion of this project is one hundred sixty (60) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) two hundred dollars (\$200.00), or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by sixty (60) calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

ELOY S. INOS, Lieutenant Governor Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Herman S. Sablan, Director Procurement and Supply, DOF

Honolulu FBI warns against work-from-home scams

Robert Allan Jones, acting special agent-in-charge of the Honolulu Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, warned the public about "work-from-home" scams advertised on the Internet that ultimately seek to defraud money from job-seekers and their banks.

The Honolulu FBI has seen a recent uptick in complaints regarding this type of scam in which a job seeker responds to an unsolicited email or internet posting seeking employees to work from home. After a brief job screening period, the worker receives a check and is ordered to negotiate the check in their bank account, keep a portion, and wire transfer the remainder of the money to accounts controlled by the defrauders. The worker is unaware that the check is actually a counterfeit. The defrauders hope to receive the wire transfer from the worker before the worker is notified by their bank that they have deposited a worthless check in their account.

In January 2012, a Kauai woman answered a CraigsList advertisement seeking workfrom-home employees for a fake oil company using the name DSL Oil. Shortly thereafter, she was mailed a counterfeit Chevron check for \$3,958 and told to deposit the check into her personal bank account, keep \$200, and wire transfer the balance to her new employer. The woman recognized that something was wrong and refused to send the wire transfer.

In an unusual twist, the woman then received a fraudulent email claiming to be from the Honolulu office of the FBI threatening her with criminal prosecution for her refusal to wire the money. The defrauders used the name and included a photograph of an actual Honolulu FBI special agent to create the illusion of credibility. The FBI has previously warned the public against scams where names and photos of U.S. government officials are used in attempts to add credibility to financial frauds. The Kauai woman contacted the real FBI in Honolulu who confirmed that the email was a fake.

The FBI believes that many of these scams originate from the African nation of Nigeria even though U.S. and European cities are used for the initial wire transfers.

Email solicitations that appear to be fraudulent should be deleted by recipients and email attachments should not be opened. Cases in which a substantial financial loss has been suffered should be reported to the FBI's Internet Crime Control Center at www.ic3.gov for possible further investigation.

More information about "Work-from-Home" Scams can be found at:

http://www.fbi.gov/news/ stories/2009/april/workathome_041709

IP&E donates \$1,500 to MMAC

By CLARISSA V. DAVID clarissa_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Isla Petroleum & Energy or IP&E, which owns and operates the retail, commercial and distribution of Shell fuel on Saipan, Guam, and Palau, donated \$1,500 to the 2012 Marianas March Against Cancer event in April.

IP&E's donation makes them a major sponsor, a title conferred on corporations that make cash or in-kind donations worth \$1,000 to \$2,999.

Other major sponsors for MMAC are KKMP, Mobil Oil, Saipan Mayor's Office, Triple J Saipan, and Younis Art Studio. Title sponsors are Bank of Guam, Delta Air Lines, DFS Saipan, Ltd., IT&E, Jo-Charitable Foundation, Sorensen Media Group Saipan, and TakeCare/FHP.

Catherine Attao-Toves, 2012 MMAC committee chair, said IP&E has been a consistent major sponsor for the annual cancer fundraising event.

"On behalf of the 2012 MMAC committee, we extend our utmost thanks and appreciation to the staff and management of IP&E for their unending support in the fight against cancer," she added.

The largest cancer fundraising event in the Northern

Mariana Islands, MMAC is the signature fundraising activity of the Commonwealth Cancer Association, a volunteer-led, non-profit organization that ensures all funds raised are spent in the CNMI on cancer patient support services, cancer awareness programs, and other cancer-related services.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of MMAC which will be held on April 27 to 28 from 6pm to 6am at the Hopwood Jr. High School field in Chalan Piao.

Attao-Toves is encouraging the entire community to attend the annual event for a night of great food, fun games, and other activities in support of the battle against cancer.

She said there are 15 teams selling luminaries and raffle tickets, among other items, to raise funds for the event.

"Purchase a luminary in honor of a cancer survivor or in memory of a loved one who has lost the fight against this dreadful affliction. Or purchase a raffle ticket to win a free ticket to Honolulu or the U.S. mainland courtesy of title sponsor Delta Air Lines, a Samsung smart phone with one-year free service courtesy of title sponsor IT&E, plus other great prizes," she added.

Woman seeks police help against alleged violent, abusive ex-husband

Police arrested early last week a smelled of alcoholic beverage. man who allegedly broke into the started yelling profanity at her. residence of his former commonlaw wife in Koblerville and also threatened to kill her and her son.

Joey C. Duenas, 31, was taken to the Superior Court Wednesday on charges of criminal trespass, assault, and disturbing the peace.

A \$1,000 cash bail was initially imposed for his temporary release.

Detective Flora Danica B. Aguon stated in her report that on Monday afternoon the victim was lying on the bed with her son.

The victim was surprised upon seeing Duenas standing in front of her bedroom door.

The victim asked Duenas to leave, but the defendant, who

The victim was scared considering that the defendant is allegedly really abusive especially when high on drugs.

Duenas walked out of the house, stood in the yard and started yelling "This girl is worth \$2!"

Duenas then left and promised he would come back.

The victim called the police. She told an officer that Duenas had threatened to kill her and her son if she finds someone else.

Detective Aguon said when the officer arrested Duenas later that afternoon in Kobleville, he was breathing heavily and was clenching his fist. (Ferdie de la Torre)

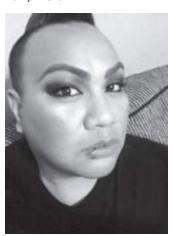




CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Happy 5th birthday Greggy Boy. With love, Chad, Brittany, Sierra, and Clayton.



сонтявитер рното Нарру birthday to Frankie Camacho who is celebrating his special day today! May you have a wonderful and fantabulous time! Keep it ROCK' N! CHEERS! Coming out from all the Fist Pump'n Crew!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Belated happy birthday to Chrissy Castro! Wishing you all the best in the world. Keep it ROCK' N! CHEERS!!! Coming out from all the Fist Pump'n Crew!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Belated happy birthday to Casey Camacho! Wishing you all the best in the world. Keep it ROCK' N! CHEERS!!! Coming out from all the Fist Pump'n Crew!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Happy 19th birthday to Isabel C. Muna from your loving family.



Special thanks to everyone that supported me. Shawn Emmanuel Lizama Santos, through this year's Chamorro competition held in Guam on March 13, 2012. To my parents Stanley S. Santos and Zenaida L. Santos, un dangkulu na si yu'us ma'ase

yan hu guiya hamyu na dos.



Mar. 19, 1999

CPA, contractor deal theirs alone: CUC

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation will not assist the Commonwealth Ports Authority in settling the claims of a contractor on the long-delayed sewer line system despite forging an earlier agreement to complete the project. CUC Executive Director Timothy P. Villagomez said the government-owned utility firm would stick with the initial deal and not intervene on the problems with contractor Pacific Drilling Ltd. "We are outside of that. We have nothing to do with the stop order and that's between them and the contractor," he said. Villagomez previously had raised the issue with CUC board directors, but it was decided that they would not raise their share of the project's costs above what they signed with the ports authority.

Politicians in spend-and-define trap

What is public purpose? Can members of the legislature spend their accounts for community events? These were the questions deliberated by the House of Representatives during its recent session in what appeared to be a step to force the Department of Finance to reimburse expenditures for activities such as funeral. Members have passed a legislation defining the provision of the CNMI Constitution on matters related to public purpose to clarify different interpretations on the issue by other government officials. The bill, sponsored by Senate Floor leader Pete P. Reyes, heads back to the upper house to vote on amendment made by representatives.

Mar. 19, 2001

First Lady donates \$1,000 for beauty tilt

First Lady Sophia P. Tenorio has graciously donated \$1,000 to the Northern Marianas Beauty Pageant Association which is slated to crown the islands' representative to the Miss Universe beauty tilt on March 31. Ms. Tenorio is shelling out the money from her First Lady's Vision, according to Gerard B. Salas, president of the NMBPA. The First Lady over the weekend also hosted a luncheon and merrienda to the seven candidates vying for the honor and prestige to be named Northern Marianas-Miss Universe 2001.

CSX Lines to levy fees on hazardous cargo

Starting March 22, CSX Lines will start assessing a \$75 Hazardous Cargo Surcharge on hazardous materials or dangerous goods on a per container basis. The decision was made as a result of an operational review by the company which was conducted to improve the stowage on "ship right" to insure all containers are loaded to the vessels. In a letter by Marvin R. Buchanan to clients, company Director for Marketing for its Hawaii-Guam operations, CSX Lines put to light the growth of cargo containing hazardous materials and the difficulty the company has experienced in managing them.

Mar. 19, 2002

'Immunity to illegal aliens could be beneficial'

The Philippine Consulate General has said it would support a measure seeking to grant immunity to illegal aliens in the Commonwealth because this will, in effect, benefit a segment of the Filipino community. But consul Marcus Punsalang stressed that the consulate would not request the Department of Labor and Immigration to come up with a proposal for immunity, saying the matter is better left to employers. "While [the] Philippine consulate respects the prerogative of the CNMI government to enact and enforce its own laws, normally, a pro posal for an amnesty for illegal workers should come from the employers," said Punsalang. He explained that, if an amnesty program similar to the Limited Immunity Act implemented several years ago would be enacted, the measure would benefit not just the workers who would be legalized, but also the employers who would not need to pay excessive fines.

Rota negotiates \$50-M retirement houses

Citing its economic strategy to help Rota Island maximize its potentials, the local government has started negotiations for the construction of \$50 million worth of retirement houses. Rota Mayor Benjamin Manglona said that, as part of the island's economic program, the local government has been negotiating with Karo Formation Company, a Taipei-Japan investment firm, which expressed plans to construct 500 units of retirement houses on the island. Manglona said the firm will infuse a capital of \$50 to \$60 million to start up the construction of these housing units.

JSA Summer Programs scholarships open to CNMI high school students

WASHINGTON, **D.C.**—The with The U.S. Department of Junior Statesmen Foundation announced recently that Dr. Stephen Maynard Caliendo, a professor at the Junior Statesmen Summer School, will visit the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands from March 19 to 23 to meet with students interested in applying for one of four scholarships to the JSA Summer School. These scholarships

are provided by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

"Each year, we have dozens of very strong appli-

cants for the DOI Scholarships, which makes the selection process very difficult," said Caliendo. "The students chosen each year are among the best and brightest in CNMI and will most likely be future leaders their communities. I'm looking forward to meeting all those interested in these outstanding educational programs, as well as reconnecting with all of the JSA Summer School alumni in the CNMI."

Each scholarship winner will receive a full ride scholarship worth approximately \$7000 to pay for any tuitionrelated costs to attend one of JSA's summer schools. The scholarships are made possible due to the Junior State's more than 20 year partnership the Interior.

Students who demonstrate high-achieving grades, strong leadership skills, involvement in the community, and an interest in public service are strongly encouraged to apply for the scholarships.

The JSA / DOI Scholarship Program will award four scholarships to students from

>> Each winner to

arship worth

mer school

the CNMI to attend one of the receive a schol- JSA's Summer Schools in the US mainland which \$7000 for sum- are held at Stanford, Princeton, and Georgetown

> universities. Four additional scholarships are available for students interested in attending the JSA Diplomat Program which is held at Capital Normal University in Beijing, China, however, competition for those four scholarships is among students from each of the U.S. territories. More information is available at www. isa.org at the link for Summer Programs.

In addition to visiting schools and meeting students interested in applying for the scholarships, as well as with JSA Summer Program alumni, Caliendo will also be trying to meet with government and community leaders who might be interested in offering support for additional students to org. (JSA)

participate in the program.

Since 1991, the Junior Statesmen Foundation has worked in a partnership with the U.S. Department of the Interior to identify, educate, and train over 1,700 outstanding high school students in insular areas for active, effective, and ethical participation in public affairs. The Junior Statesmen Summer School Program builds leadership skills and confidence on the next generation of insular leaders.

This summer, students attending one of JSA's Summer School Programs will spend three to four weeks at one of the USA's prestige schools, including Georgetown University, Princeton University, and Stanford University. JSA also offers an international program in Beijing, China.

The Junior Statesmen Summer Schools feature collegelevel courses in American Government, American History, International Relations, Constitutional Law, Economics, U.S. Foreign Policy, Media and Politics, Speech and Political Communication and the American Presidency.

For more information or if vou are interested in donating for scholarships, contact Larry Guillemette, Chief Academic and Outreach Officer at 202-296-7839 ext. 7728 or via email at lguillemette@jsa.

Applications for NRCS Organic Initiative due March 30

HONOLULU—The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service reminds potential applicants to contact their local NRCS office soon to find out if they are eligible for the agency's Organic Initiative. Applications for the second ranking period of 2012 are due at NRCS offices by close of business on March 30, 2012. The NRCS Office Locator is available at http:// go.usa.gov/Uo8.

"We are pleased to provide this federal funding to help organic growers in our farming community," said Angel Figueroa, NRCS director of the Pacific Islands Area. "If Organic funds are not spent on contracts in the PIA, it goes back to our National Office.

Nationwide, NRCS has nearly \$50 million in financial and technical assistance available to certified organic producers, those who want to make the transition to organic production and producers who sell less than \$5,000 in organic products annually.

Part of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Organic Initiative offers a wide array of conservation practices specifically designed for organic production. Practices will help the selected applicants meet many requirements of their USDA Organic

System Plans and stay in compliance with USDA's National Organic Program.

The top five Organic Initiative conservation practices are cover crops, nutrient and pest management, seasonal high tunnels, crop rotation, and fencing. Our current organic transition applications amount to \$3,957 and PIA has more than \$58,000 available. Last fiscal year, NRCS obligated \$39,410 in Certified Organic and \$68,008 to transition to Organic.

Changes for the 2012 signups include three ranking periods for current and transitioning producers; a threshold ranking score that can speed up approval for qualified applicants; required conservation practices that promote the consistent use of those practices; and an expanded list of conservation activity plans.

To better understand the application process, it is important to address the high priority natural resource concerns; have a certified organic plan or approved conservation plan or other required certifications if transitioning or exempt; complete all contract documents, including eligibility; provide NRCS planner with all/any required permits, permissions, assurances, etc. for planned

practices; and have completed designs & specifications. Some key things to keep in mind:

- Consider applying for a "Conservation Activity Plan" through EQIP if you do not currently have a plan. o Fact Sheet: EQIP Organic Initiative o See "National EQIP Organic Initiative" Website for general program information.
- Schedule a visit with a planner from a local field office to apply and to go over the requirements.
- 1. Complete and turn in an application to the local NRCS office/USDA Service field
- 2. Have all control of the land documents & permissions 3. Complete all required forms & self-certifications.
- 4. Bring your "Organic System Plan" (w/identified practices you wish to apply) to the NRCS Field Office.
- 5. Complete all eligibility requirements 6. The NRCS planner will rank the application. The program is competitive and funds are limited. A threshold score will determine if you are selected for funding.

Learn more about the Organic Initiative at http:// go.usa.gov/Uo9 and find out about other NRCS initiatives and programs at http://go.usa. gov/UoX. (USDA)

join us on a fun adventure

saipanair, a new and locally owned airline company, is closing the distance between saipan and japan/china.

now hiring! flight attendants

The position is a multi-task job requiring various skills. The successful candidate wil perform important safety, security and service-related responsibilities and interact with a diverse group of customers and fellow employees. He/she must be able to work well independently as well as part of a team. This job requires:

- Minimum 21 years of age
- · High school diploma or equivalent
- Basic computer literacy and ability to perform basic math skills
- Minimum of two years direct customer service experience
- Ability to hear, read, write and fluently speak and understand the English language
- Bilingual fluency (ability to speak, read and write) in Chinese Mandarin and Japanese
- · Authorization to work in the United States and possession and maintenance of a valid United States passport or foreign passport with applicable visas
- Ability to pass a FAA-required ten-year work history review and a criminal background check and willingness to submit to fingerprinting
- Ability to comprehend and retain information pertinent to the position
- Ability to pass a rigorous training program
- Willingness to work holidays, weekends, nights and extended hours
- Willingness to work on "reserve" status for a long duration
- · Reliable transportation to and from the airport

The summary of essential job functions is as follows:

- Work in accordance with established procedures and performance standards and ensure compliance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Regulations
- Prepare and serve meals and beverages, sell onboard liquor and duty-free items
- Assist customers with carry-on items
- Ensure safety and comfort of passengers
- Respond and provide leadership during an emergency, including aircraft evacuation and unusual situations (bomb threats, hijackings, delayed flights, severe weather conditions, turbulent flights, etc.)
- Respond to customer medical situations and administer first aid to ill or incapacitated customers
- Maintain order and handle unruly or irate customers
- · Work irregular days and hours with the ability to travel to all countries to which Saipan Air
- · Comply with Saipan Air attendance policy

Additional duties may be added as required by the operational needs of Saipan Air. As Flight Attendants represent Saipan Air to our customers, applicants are expected to have specific qualifications and meet certain requirements:

- Good judgment
- · Excellent dependability
- Exceptional interpersonal skills
- Caring and nurturing disposition
- · Ability to accept personal responsibility for
- Strong work ethic
- Good service orientation
- Excellent communication skills
- Friendly and polite in all situations
- Ability to handle pressure in stressful situations
- Physical agility and strength for assisting customers and their luggage

Additional job requirements:

- Minimum height of 5'0" and maximum height of 6'3" without shoes
- · Height and weight proportionate to maintain professional appearance; body size cannot exceed specific aircraft dimensions (example: jump seat, harness without modification, cabin aisle and emergency exits)
- Vision correctable to 20/40 or better (uncorrected 20/200 or better)
- Push and pull beverage/meal cart (150-250 pounds)
- Lift liquor kit (up to 43 pounds)
- Lift emergency window exit (up to 60 pounds) • Open emergency door (91-126 pounds stress)

Employment will be contingent upon successful completion of a six to eight-wee post-job offer examination. The FAA requires a drug screening for Flight Attendant applications and provide the second screening for Flight Attendant applications. requires employees to submit to drug/alcohol testing randomly throughout their employmen

is contingent upon a cleared drug screen according to FAA and Saipon Air standards.

If you meet the above-mentioned qualifications and the employment conditions are acceptable to you please send your resume to hrdsaipanair@tanholdings.com. Application forms can be obtained at the HR Office, 2nd Floor, JP Center on Beach Road Early submission of application documents is hig



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pinion



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> Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

Mapuan galaide iya Marianas

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



amatman i linau, dilubiu, pagyu yan hinalom tasi (tsunami) gi linala' i tautau siha gi señgsoñg. Ya para todu i pinadese, sige ha' mañgarera i man-ma'gasta kulan no

Kau hayun niha malipan maisa siha gi chagu' gi halom sumen makat na chubaskon lina'la' kontra i tautau niha mismu? Kau propiu i para umafa' taya' i sumen seriousu na chinatsagan i tanu ginen hilu' aire? Na ti yangin manunog u fan mas hihot yan i pinadesen i tautau siha ni ha represesenta gi hegsu' i Deni? Hafa na mampos oppan i mañan fandañgu ke hai'las?

Yangin primet sustansian representasion gi publiku i mapegan interest i tautau giya monana, pues hagas taigue este na sensia gi halom man-ma'gasta siha. Entre maleletke i asuntu kulan fugun manog sa' taya' siña ma-offrese gi maneran satbasion probleman linahyan ya man-e'ensinahyau para u fan haguñg un' ratu. Ke lau ti in' atrebi hamyu inefresen ayudu para i publiku?

Dispues de inna' rindondu oriyan apuya' miyu ginen i sueddu ni mafattu ginen inapasen mame tax, magahet na sumen taya' satton yan antau na ineppe siña innae' i publiku pot satbasion lina'la'? Na ti lamayot patte hamyu muna' mas tailaye gi hilu' taya' bindan miyu gi alacha 'sino dos años na tiempu? Mañgge confitmasion "biba" yangin ti in' sedi na u faliñgu gi hilu' munton dinage. Fan gai mamahlau sa' ti kaduduku i publiku!

Esta ti impachu i publiku lau fatigau lumie' na memegaiña besis ti in' tiñgu chochogueña satton yan antau na che' chu' linahyan. Siña batbaru un' atrebi hau gi ti fafayimu. Lau ennau na sensian muron u fagpu' na eleksion. Nahoñg na dañu esta in' pega gi matan publiku ya ni unu giya hame bachet, tañga 'sino udu. Siempre u oppan i sentimenton mame na biahe sin ditension ya tana' fagpu' gi presisu na tinilaika.

Este i kada ratu i man-ma'gasta man-asablasus gi gaseta interisimu che'chu' muron. Kulan estorian todu man-listu para u fan malag As Matuis, lau sige naya man-liliku' ma-aliligau i yabin kareta. Lau ni unu lumie' na hagas ha' i yabi gi sagaña (ignition). Buente bisiu i para u fan afaisen pot para umana' kalaskas sekus niha sin presisu. De dios mihu!

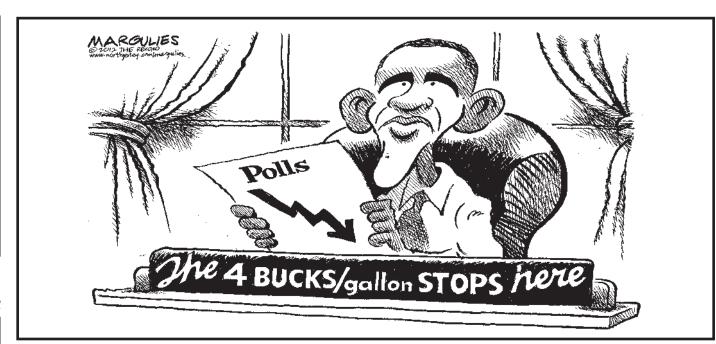
Ha faisenyu' amiguhu Magoo hafa na duru man-kuñkurahe i gobietnu yan presidenten i sanhilu' na guma pot dibin administrasion gi Fondun man-ritirau.

Ineppe as Kindu: "Ti listu i gobietnu umembrasa responsablidatña ya pinega gi sagaña 'nai finaisen nu i presidente para u tachu ya u famatinas antau yan satton na disision pot APAS dibi para i fondu".

Yangin esta ni hafa na atten politika tai mamauleg, pues propiu na u guaha disision ginen i magalahe kau para tafanai guiguine ha' pat guaha enfin ineppe 'nai siña ha satba i linala' mas ke sais mit na man-ritirau.

I fumabobot casino mañgekuentos gi mismu tiempu na u saga i tanu' man-indihinau gi halom natibu pot no u guaha mas aminasu gi kuttura yan tradisiont tanu'. Ti umaya i man-sañgan yan machochoneg ot casino. Mas tinilaika i modun linala' natibu guine ke hafa talie' deste antes. Man-mafañagu mas problema para i tautau yan otru siha modun lina'la' ni hagas estrañgeheru para i natibu. Siña in' rikonose posision miyu maseha para inna' konsiste pot primet

See MAPUAN on Next Page



An open letter to our youth

elp! The ship is sinking! What should we do? Should we abandon ship or try to save it? Our captain and his followers are having problems trying to steer it through these rough waters. Is there a youthful brigade that can save our ship? Help us!

We adults have handed down to you—the youth—a bleak future for you and for the CNMI. We have destroyed much of it by handing you a heavy debt of over \$300,000,000.00; an insatiable cost utility operation; a government that at times is confrontational with our benefactor the United States; a bankrupt Pension Fund; a discouraged public labor force; a depressing drop in our tourists; a high number of people on food stamps; a sick health center; add to that the daily flight from our islands of citizens who have lost faith in our country. Meanwhile some of us are burying our heads in the sand trying to ignore the inevitable change that has taken place in the world and its effect upon us. We adults have really screwed up! On their behalf and mine, I apologize!

We need your help! Will you come to our help and to yours? Or are you going to lie down and ignore the problems and whine that they are not of your making? Or will you also flee to Guam or to another utopian place? Or will you also like many others get in line for food stamps? OR WILL YOU STAND UP AND DO SOME-THING ABOUT IT?

Let's examine some of the changes that have taken place in the last few years. One is "globalization." Our world has become so much closer. The essence of globalization is the free movement of people, goods, services, and capital across national borders. Do we in the CNMI understand what this means and how it affects us here?

Another major change in our lives is the "information technology" or IT that has suddenly opened all parts of the world to us in seconds. We can see and talk to each other instantly. There are no secrets left it seems. But the most interesting aspect of this IT is that you, the youth, are better equipped to handle it than most of us older people. You are growing up with IT which has become such a vital part of our lives.

A third problem we must resolve is our energy consumption. Unless we learn how to better conserve our energy, we will be faced with a major, major problem. Again you, the youth must help solve this problem, because unless you do there may not be any energy left for you to use when you become adults.

Debt! Ever increasing debt! How do we cap this monster and begin to repay it before we become totally bankrupt? In the CNMI we talk about millions dollars of debt while in the United States the talk is of billions of dollars of debt! See what we adults have bestowed upon you? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

You and we must examine what we are doing incorrectly and what we should be doing instead. How is our political system functioning? Is it working as a unit or is it in a state of mayhem? What values are we living by? The saddest part to all of these problems is that we are not cooperating together in creating plans and goals to cope with them. Instead we point fingers at each other blaming the other guy.

I urge you, the youth, to jump in and begin to take control. The first thing is to seek a solid education so that you will be able to work with confidence. Our islands need many different professions and trades skill. You must become the backbone of the local labor force. After mastering a profession or trade, stay here and practice it. Become one of the pillars of our society. There are many professions and trades we require to rebuild our prosperity. One of the most effective ways to prosperity is through developing our brainpower—properly prepared and properly applied brainpower.

Over the years we have given away most of our small businesses

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is a former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



to strangers. You with your new ideas and drive can recapture them. Become the entrepreneurs that will fuel our new economy. From there move on to take over the Legislature and Administration. Too many of our current leaders are still steeped in the "good old days" of the '80s and '90s

Across the United States young elected officials between the ages of 18 and 35 represent 4.8 percent of all elected leaders in congressional, gubernatorial, legislative, and city and county commissions. Remember our voting age in the CNMI starts at 18 years old! It is estimated that over 50 percent of our population is between 18 and 40 years old. With a little effort, you—the youth, can take over.

All of you are growing up with the latest information technology that none of us older citizens enjoyed. We didn't have computers, cell phones, iPods and all the other latest advanced technology. Your thinking is advanced and world-centered, not island centered. You accept the fact that we are part of the flat world in which seconds or minutes we can communicate with our fellow humans in all parts of the world. Wow! What a revolution I never knew when I was

Here are several questions we must ponder and reach conclusions if we are to prosper again. What and how should we do something differently to improve the lives and welfare of our citizens? What would make our islands a leading resort destination? What industries should we build besides tourism? Do you think agriculture can become a major food producer and industry here? How can we create jobs for ourselves? What type of nation do we want to become? These and more, you—the youth, must begin to answer.

I strongly urge you, the youth, of the CNMI, to begin thinking about forming your own political party. You can select young candidates to run for office in the Legislature and the Administration. Think of it—youth with fresh and courageous ideas pumping new vitality into our society! And one of the most exciting ideas is that you, the youthful candidates, will not be carrying prejudices because youth sees potentials in all citizens regardless of color and race. The CNMI is now a diversified society made up of many nationalities. Your youthful idealism will reign supreme. You are the hope and promise for the future.

Am I being too idealistic and asking for the impossible dream? But I am willing to meet and help any of you who have aspirations to accept the challenges presented here.

Recall the following except from the poem called "The Charge of the Light Brigade" written by Alfred Lord Tennyson:

"Forward, the Light Brigade!"

Was there a man dismay'd? Not tho' the soldier knew

Someone had blunder'd:

Theirs not to make reply,

Theirs not to reason why,

Theirs but to do and die: Into the valley of Death

Rode the six hundred.

See YOUTH on Next Page

Letter to the Editor

PSS waste, abuse and mismanagement

The financial crisis at PSS is due to Board of Education not handling the waste, abuse and mismanagement properly.

Here are some concerns that I brought up to the then Chairwoman Lucy Blanco-Maratita back in

2010. While I'm talking to her she was writing it in her note pad.

1. Back in 2010 one of the energy saving plan was to shut off air-conditioners at the Curriculum Department, certain hours of the day, so I went to see the Chairwoman to, first, stop the waste and

- abuses at PSS.
 The Blackberry purchases to all management and principals
- The glamour/colorful expensive printing cost of PSS quarterly
- The glamour expensive picture frames at PSS hallways and BOE conference room
- The expensive conference room furniture at BOE's conference room
- The expensive 48" flat screen in the central conference room and BOE's conference room
- 2. Mismanagement:
- BOE approved increase of salary for one upper management with retroactive pay
- Uncollected travel advances due from mostly upper management, with one individual of over \$20,000, as reported by the auditor
- For every COE travel out of CNMI, there's 2-3 PSS staff will come along with her, and BOE chairperson approves all travel outside CNMI

Hafa adai CNMI! The continued success of our student musicians

at the TBMF in Guam is truly a cause for celebration. On behalf of

Saipan Southern HS and our 200+ Manta Band members, including

the 50 who will represent us all at the 2012 Olympics in London, we

proudly salute our friends at Koblerville Elementary School and Marianas High School. Their gold-award winning, command performance

achievements are milestones that add to the CNMI's growing legacy in the fine arts, highlighting the success of and further need for expansion

of arts education in all of our local schools. I want to thank PSS, the

BOE, COE Sablan, and our community for their support of school en-

sembles like the 'KES Glee' and the 'MHS Rhythm & Harmony' who

The donations of time, energy, and money that so many of you

have given to young people like those in Glee, or the Manta Band

aren't wasted investments. Every dollar is greatly appreciated.

Every dollar given helps our world-class students duplicate their

homegrown success abroad! From a purely public relations stand-

point, their consistently superior performances give precisely the

type of positive exposure we need right now. As I type this letter,

five Manta Band alumni are performing for judges and an audience

Observers outside of the CNMI are increasingly asking ques-

tions like, "What makes these CNMI kids so special?" My answer

is "Yes, we have great schools, teachers, and students. But a closer

look reveals that what actually sets our students apart from similarly

talented young people in other places is often overlooked, especial-

For all the struggles and controversies that the CNMI has expe-

rienced, there remains a bond between those of us who call these

islands our home. Within a functional family, what divides is not

permitted to become stronger than what unites. And what our musi-

cians are accomplishing right now can rightly be characterized as a

My point is this: the manner by which a "good" team or musi-

cal ensemble develops into a "great" one is not so different from

how an effective society functions. In any organization, team (or

school band) it is important to stand united regardless of which "in-

strument" or role you happen to play. Unity is our supreme goal at

of thousands in New York City at the invitation of Carnegie Hall.

take great pride in the high quality of their performances.

A unifying force

in the CNMI

■ Two months ago, COE and Budget Officer, both, pay themselves with their accrued annual leave, which is illegal in accordance to BOE POLICY. The BOE requested for investigation and the public were not informed of the result of this investigation. This is not personal fund that was mismanaged, it is public funds, BOE owe an answer to the public, parents and teachers. If Mr. Craig Garrison did not discover this scam, Rita and Waldo will go scot free. Isn't it true that if you pay yourself illegally that is embezzlement? Isn't it that Rita and Waldo are the spending authority of the funds? Even if they returned the money back, there was a criminal activity involved. Where are the authorities on this case, the Attorney General, Public Auditor and the Board of Education.

- PSS pays some individuals (sweet heart deal) professional contracts. (No question from BOE.)
- The nepotism hiring practice at the expense of our children's education. (No question from BOE.)
- 3. Harassment:
- I reported to the then Chairwoman Maratita about the incident of employees harassment.

A rank and file employee was pushed on the head by COE and was told to use her head. Poor girl was young and new, she doesn't know what to do. Right after I report it to then Chairwoman Maratita, the employee was immediately transferred to Hopwood. If this incident is done by a teacher, that teacher for sure will be reprimanded or terminated.

All of the above call for a change at the Board of Education. This coming election we have to make sure we change the Board members. Criminal activities should not be condoned at the Public School System.

I bet there's a lot of things going around at PSS and not being exposed to the public due to employees scared of losing their job and I don't blame them. The Board must take action of criminal activities, but they don't. Shall we recommend to abolish the Board

of Education, if this entity is not functioning to protect the interest of the students and dedicated teachers.

Parents and teachers were used by PSS to appear before the Legislature regarding the disconnection of power at PSS. I heard comments from the community and parents blaming the legislature and the administration. Please don't blame anybody, blame it to the administration of Public School System.

Rita Sablan was notified by CUC two weeks before the disconnection, yet, she went ahead with her trip to Washington, D.C. ignoring the CUC notice, where is her priority, and the Board did not make it an issue. It is not the parents and teachers responsibility to appear before the Legislature, it is the Commissioner of Education, PSS Finance Director and the Board of Education. No matter how much money is given to PSS from the federal government and local revenue, if waste, abuse and mismanagement continue, **they will never have enough**, and who suffers in the end, the students and dedicated teachers.

This is also a message to the Legislature, they must do an oversight at PSS. First, PSS did not pay the Retirement Fund for their office rental. Second, PSS did not pay the Retirement Fund with employer's contribution. Third, PSS did not pay CUC of over \$4 million. Fourth, PSS did not pay their vendors and those vendors were behind with their employees payroll for two months. WHERE'S THE BOARD OF EDUCATION?

Please don't get mad at me for exposing the above. Someone must have the courage to take action and not to sit back, watch and do nothing. We, parents and the community must get together to help the Board of Education get things in order at PSS for a better education.

Thank you all for your understanding, support and cooperation, and for those who get mad at me, I am sorry.

Remi Sablan

Garapan

each rehearsal. Our Manta Band members attempt to draw upon the most noble traits found within the wider community even as we seek to fulfill our own motto, "Un Eskuela, Un Korason". We stand together as one school, with one heart. Under the leadership of Mr. Tudela, this guiding philosophy has united us just as closely as it did when Mr. Le'au and Mr. Garrison first welcomed students to our

As 50 of our best and brightest students prepare to carry the 'musical torch' to the London Summer Games, we thank each of you for igniting it with your well-wishing and generosity. Currently our greatest challenge is not the difficult repertoire, which is getting closer to mastery with each rehearsal. Our challenge is not a lack of desire, willpower, or determination. Quite frankly, we need more financial help! Having already raised more than \$100,000, we continue working hard to earn at least \$150,000 more. With a great sense of urgency and payment deadlines nearing, I am appealing for your support again.

There has been no lack of generosity in our community. We are blessed to have received an unbelievable outpouring of support, both financial and otherwise from many individuals and corporate donors. I cannot overstate how grateful we are to them, and to those of you will now consider additional ways to help. Thank you for keeping the Olympic Dream alive for the Manta Band.

There are several ways you can assist our Manta Band members:

- 1. Consider an ETC donation up to a maximium of \$5,000. Individuals and businesses may contribute through the ETC program.
- 2. Purchase a ticket (or two) for the Mega Raffle that PSS has set up to benefit the band. There are many cash awards, with the grand prize winner receiving \$5,000 cash. The drawing will be at our gala concert on May 4 in the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort. Tickets are \$50 each, and include admission to the concert.
- 3. Sponsor, or co-sponsor our official uniforms. We will be wearing formal (i.e. not cheap) attire as we perform at prestigious venues such as Westminster Abbey, Central London, various Olympic Venues, and Queen Elizabeth's conference hall. Our gowns and suits are estimated to cost \$120 or more per performer, or a total expense of \$6,000 for all 50 members.
- 4. Contribute food, beverages, merchandise or gift-certificates for upcoming band events like the aforementioned Mega-Raffle or for the Manta Band Fundraiser Golf Tournament we are sponsoring on March 31.
- 5. Come out and play a round of golf with a few friends at Coral Ocean Point on March 31. Tickets for this Peoria-formatted event are just \$75!
 - 6. Sponsor a Flame Tree Seedling for \$100. With Congressman

Kilili's help, our band students have joined an effort to replace and restore 100 or more of Saipan's dying Flame Trees with new healthy seedlings that will be cared for in ways that ensure our island continues to enjoy the beauty of these trees.

7. Write a check. For any amount. We appreciate any act of generosity regardless of its size. Please make it payable to Saipan Southern HS ("MB Olympics" in the memo) unless it is an ETC type donation (PSS Treasury).

For more information on any of these ideas, please contact Saipan Southern HS at 664-4000. Mr. Tudela or I would be happy to assist you with additional details. On behalf of all the young musicians representing us in London, please again accept our deepest thanks for any and all contributions to this once-in-a-lifetime endeavor.

Will DeWitt, Instructor

Saipan Southern HS Manta Band

Clearing my name

This is to clear my name from the letter that was written and published in the *Saipan Tribune* editorial last March 16. That I, Janry A. Santos, has never written nor attempted to write to any editorial regarding any issues or attempt to defame any person for any reason.

I have reported the matter to proper authorities for a full investigation to be conducted at the earliest time possible as I strongly believe it is not right for any one to use my name or any one's name for one's political or personal gain.

I will pursue legal action against those found using my name for their political or personal advancement.

Janry A. Santos Rota

YOUTH

From Page 10

Cannon to the right of them, Cannon to the left of them, Cannon in behind of them Volley'd and thunder'd; Storm'd at with shot and shell,

Boldly they rode and well, Into the jaws of Death, Into the mouth of Hell, Rode the six hundred....

Honor the charge they made, Honor the light brigade..."

I hope you don't think I got carried away with the above quote. The time calls for drastic action. The above comments are meant to spur your thinking about the possibilities and power that you as youth possess. The future of the CNMI truly lies in your hands. It is a monumental challenge. It can be compared to our soldiers going off to war to preserve our society. You can decide to accept the challenge or decide that it's not worth it. It is your choice.

I strongly suggest you go on the internet and see what other youth are doing to resolve problems in their communities. You—the youth—are the answer to our needs. Feel the power you possess. Do it! Our sinking ship awaits your reply. We adults need your help.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

MAPUAN

ly to those who do not live here.

unifying force throughout the CNMI!

It is the concept of family.

From Page 10

biahe?

I finu' mimiyu kulan un' dilinkuente na saina ni sige ha sañgane famaguoña na muñga man-gimen maneska lau kada pueñge ha uñgag-gue' estake togpuñg. Yangin muñga hau na u guaha mas aminasu gi kutturan

natibu, pues huchum i pettan sanmena kosake hita ha' yan hita tafan a'afana' diariu. Kontodu television yan gaseta siha u fan mahuchum fuetsau.

I publiku pumadedese todu bidan muron gi inadisgustun man-ma'gas niha. Todu sumasañgan na guiya i dinanche. Lau 'nai ta ebalua kabales, taya fitme na ineppe masañgan fuera ke huegon politika pot para u fanliheñg ñaihon un' ratu mientras mahahassu

hafa mauleg na dinage para u labla talu i publiku. Gi finu' un' saina, chadegña magacha' un' dakun ke un' ke'yau. Hafa mohon?

Buente pot hinalom tiempun maipe na mampos diskalentau kontodu relasion manma'gasta siha. Haye ha' un' atan fumofofu kulan torun agaga' gi halom pastahe. Estira pinasensian miyu ya in' atetuye satbasion asuntun linahyan siha. Innague' mina' manmanhula' hamyu guine gi alacha. A' Saina! **12** MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2012 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲86° ▼76°

Guam and Rota Partly Cloudy

Palau

Yap

Chuuk

Pohnpei

Kosrae

Majuro

Auckland

Hong Kong

I os Angeles

Melbourne

New York

Honolulu

London

Manila

Miami

Osaka

Paris

Pusan

Rome

Salem

Seoul

Tokyo

San Francisco

Beijing

Micronesia

Showers

Showers

Showers

Showers

Showers

Around The Globe

Windy

Sunny

Showers

Sunny

Showers

lce

Mostly Cloudy

Partly Cloudy

Showers

Washington, DC Thundershowers ▲75 ▼58

Mostly Sunny ▲79 ▼69

Mostly Sunny ▲55 ▼35

Mostly Sunny ▲59 ▼46

Thundershowers ▲86 ▼79

Partly Cloudy ▲80 ▼70

Partly Cloudy ▲68 ▼53

Mostly Cloudy ▲49 ▼37

Partly Cloudy ▲54 ▼33

Partly Cloudy ▲51 ▼35



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲ 86° ▼ 76°

▲86 **▼**77

▲88 ▼77

▲89 **▼**79

▲85 ▼80

▲85 **▼**80

▲85 **▼**79

▲68 ▼61

▲53 **▼**26

▲69 ▼64

▲81 **▼**59

▲67 ▼50

▲49 **▼**43

▲55 ▼50

▲46 ▼26

▲48 **▼**38

Thunderstorms ▲86 ▼78

WEDNESDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼76°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲ 86° ▼ 76°

Partly cloudy with

isolated showers.

▲86° ▼76°

07606

OZ119

0Z606/701

0Z606/721

0Z606/721

2:40am 6:30am

4:00am 11:20am

2:40am 11:15am

2:10am 12:00pm

2:40am 12:00pm

C05076/147 3:10pm 10:25pm

1 via ICN

via ICN

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

1, 5 via GUM

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2012

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front enters the discussion area near 22N180 and extends southwestward to 17N168E then continues as a shear line to 15N160E to 11N150E to end just south of Guam near 12N145E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms can be found along and up to 300 miles north of the front. Patchy low-clouds and showers are located along and up to 300 miles north of the shear line. A low-level trough extends from a circulation located near 6N130E to 2N138E to 5N145E to end near the equator and 151E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are located west of Palau between 7N and 9N from 130E to 133E and east of Palau between the equator and 9N from 137E to 146E. Low-level convergence east of the trough is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across Chuuk and Pohnpei states between 1N and 8N from 146E to 159E. Patchy low clouds and showers can be found across the Marshall Islands between 4N and 7N from 170E to 180.

Tides								
Saipan Ha	rbor							
12:24 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet					
7:15 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet					
1:15 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet					
6:22 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet					

Sunr	ise/Suns	et	Moonrise/Moonset				
Today	6:22 AM	6:28 PM	Today	3:44 AM	3:41 PM		
Tuesday	6:21 AM	6:28 PM	Tuesday	4:25 AM	4:32 PM		
Wednesday	6:21 AM	6:28 PM	Wednesday	5:04 AM	5:21 PM		
Thursday	6:20 AM	6:28 PM	Thursday	5:42 AM	6:09 PM		
Friday	6:19 AM	6:28 PM	Friday	6:20 AM	6:57 PM		

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The Saipan Tribune accepts for FREE publication the following

PICTURES ■ ISLAND SNAPSHOTS

- Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- **TRÁVELOGUE** Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

NMI CRIME

STOPPERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organiza tions, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the Saipan Tribune to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number ■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to

next day's edition. HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or
- jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com. Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950 ■ Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are re 6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The Saipan Tribune will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.

 For Travelogue, the Saipan Tribune reserves the right
- to choose which pictures to publish.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone ■ *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

(6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) C05062 2:10am 2:40am 5:15am 5:45am C05064 SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP) ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN) C05064 4:15am 4:50am 1, 5 3:10am 3:45am C05062 SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN 4:15am 5:45am 1, 5 via ROP 2:10am 3:45am C05064 C05062 1. 5 via ROP C05070 4:35am 5:25am C05069 2:45am 3:35am 2.3.4.6.7 2. 3. 4. 6. 7 C05068 8:25am 9:15am Daily C05071 7:00am 7:50am Daily 12:10pm 1:00pm 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05074 1, 4, 5, 7 C05073 C05076 1:40pm 2:30pm 3:10pm 4:00pm C05075 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 1, 4, 5, 7 C05078 6:50pm 7:40pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05077 5:30pm 6:20pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 5:40pm 6:30pm 3, 6 C05078 7:00pm 7:50pm 3, 6 C05077 9.55nm 10.45nm 1 2 4 5 7 8:35pm 9:25pm C05072 C05079 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05072 10:05pm 10:55pm 3, 6 C05079 8:45pm 9:35pm 3, 6 SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN **DL287** 6:00am 8:40am Daily **DL298** 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL285 6:35am 9:15am 1, 3, 5, 7 **DL288** 8:40pm 1:15am+1 Daily DI 297 DI 286 7:40pm 12:20am+1 2, 4, 6, 7 4:25pm 7:15pm Daily SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN 07119 4:00am 6:40am Daily 07120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN 07606 2:10am 6:00am 07603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 11, 2012

ARRIVALS

7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX

10:55am 6:30nm 3 6 via GUM

7:40pm 1:00am+1 7

DEPARTURES

0Z604	3:20pm 7:10pm	Daily	0Z605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-BUS	AN (PUS)		BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN	l	
0Z608	3:35am 7:05am	4, 7	0Z607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	3, 6
DL581	4:10am 7:30am	1, 5	DL580	10:10pm	2:55am+1	4, 7
CAIDAN OHA	NZHAH ZAAN		AHANZHAH /	OANL CA	IDAN	
SAIPAN-GUA	NZHOU (CAN)		GUANZHOU (CAN)-9A	IPAN	
3U8646	4:20am 7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

234567

Daily via KIX

07120

0Z605

SAIPAN-SHA	ANGHAI (PVG)		SHANGHAI	(PVG)-SAIPAN	
3U8648	6:10am 8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm 5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-MA	NILA (MNL)		MANILA (M	NL)-SAIPAN	
0Z606/701	2:10am 11:15am	1 via ICN	DL172/288	8:00am 1:15am+1	Daily via NRT

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | C0190/5077

			via ICN	C0190/5079	10:55am	9:35pm	3, 6 via GUM
C05070/191	4:35am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	0Z702/605	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
DL287/173	6:00am	10:25pm	Daily via NRT	0Z702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
C05068/183	8:25am	9:25pm	2, 5 via GUM				via ICN
C05068/183	8:25am	9:40pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/C05071	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C05076/183	3:10pm	9:25pm	2, 5 via GUM	C0192/5071	10:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via
C05076/183	3:10pm	9:40pm	1, 4, 7				GUM-Palau
			via GUM	C0184/5071	11:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
C05076/193	3:10pm	11:00pm	2, 5 via				via GUM
			GUM-Palau	0Z704/603	11:40pm	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN	C0184/5071	11:59pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
C05072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 5, 7				
			via GUM				
C05072/PR111	10:05pm	7:50am+1	3, 6 via GUM				
SAIPAN-HON	G KONG	(HKG)		HONG KONG	(HKG)-S	SAIPAN	

0Z604/723 0Z604/749	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	10:30pm 10:50pm	Daily via ICN Daily via ICN		11:15pm	7:50am+1	via ICN 1, 5 via GUM
,		, , , , ,	, , , , ,	nesday (3), Thur irlines; CZ: Chin	, , ,		, , , ,

0Z724/603

02750/603

0Z722/605

02722/605

12:30am 2:20pm

1:00am 2:20pm

1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN

1:15pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Daily via ICN

Daily via ICN

Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA F	requency	Airline	ETD	ETA Fr	equency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan			,	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily	THE IEU	10.00	10.10	buny
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota	10.20	10.10	Dully	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam			,	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily				Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Fitial discusses climate change at 17th MCES

TUMON, Guam—The chief executives of the nine jurisdictions of Micronesia gathered for the 17th Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit here in the Territory of Guam.

Following the opening ceremonies and the change of command, each of the chief executives delivered their remarks to the delegates and participants. All the heads of state of the region highlighted the importance of sustaining the regional collaboration that has been established by way of the Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit.

Gov. Fitial discussed the recent meeting of the Micronesian leaders and the Region IX Federal Regional Council held in San Francisco just two weeks ago. "Gov. Calvo and I, along with Gov. Tulafono of American Samoa and the Ambassadors from RMI, Palau and the FSM, again met with the Region IX FRC," said Fitial. "Continuing a tradition that began just two years ago, we again had the opportunity to further strengthen intergovernmental communications related to funding, policy and technical assistance.'

Fitial also drew attention to the issue of climate change, a matter often taken for granted, but one that carries a great deal of consequence if island nations simply ignore it. He noted that carbon emission producing



Gov. Benigno R. Fitial addresses his colleagues and others in attendance at the opening day of the 17th Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit held at the Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort.

after the FRC meeting, he joined Gov. Tulafono in a meeting with a group of coral reef scientists to provide a consensus statement regarding the implications of climate change on coral reefs.

"They are reaching out to us as leaders of the Pacific Islands to work together in an effort to come up with viable solutions. As Chief Executives, it is important for us to put forward a call for action against large

nations to curb contributions stated Gov. Fitial.

> The governor added that as first-hand witnesses to the effects of climate change, it is

tremendously important for the chief executives to recognize that climate change is underway and that it will have a significant impact on the

frastructure and population size, our small island nations remain insignificant contributors to cartal exploitation are long past and the time to act is now.'

He further acknowledged that the global community must take this threat seriously and effectuate policies and protections that will not only curb the increase in emissions, but ultimately, result in a significant decrease of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and oceans.

In concluding his remarks, Fitial pointed out that the regional leaders all share the goal of achieving of economic prosperity for all the islands. He reminded his colleagues of a wellknown proverb that states: Give a man fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime. "At the end of the day, the degree and extent of our prosperity will be the ultimate measure of whether we gave our people fish, or we taught them how to fish," added Fitial. "Through our partnership at this table, we are empowered to make that decision of either building success for a day or leaving a legacy for a lifetime. I choose the latter." (Office of the Governor)

'Manglona is real reason for stalled progress'

TUMON, Guam—Gov. Benigno R. Fitial lashed back at Senate President Paul Manglona for political posturing and misleading the people of the CNMI. The governor said that every time Manglona is referred to as the longest serving senator, "we are reminded why our struggles cannot be solved."

"How can Manglona say that he is working to address our financial challenges, and in the same breath, lead the charge to defeat the casino bill—a measure that would have provided much needed relief to our fiscal impediments?" said Fitial.

Moreover, the governor is appalled at Manglona's claims that the problems of the Retirement Fund are a result of inaction by the administration and the lower house. "Who is he kidding? It is the Senate that refused to act on critical Fund-related bills passed by the lower house. These were measures that were introduced following discussions with the Fund on possible ways to protect and preserve the life of the Fund," said Fitial.

As to the Tinian and Rota senators politicizing remarks the governor made against them in a previous interview, Fitial has this to say: "These senators know that I was referring to them and not the good people of the islands of Tinian and Rota. It's an extreme pity that these senators are so

far consumed by the need to enrich themselves and their special interests that they turn a blind eye on improving the overall welfare of the people of the Commonwealth.

"It is Sen. Manglona and his disciple senators that are dividing our people. I have held full leadership summits with our Legislature so we can help our people, but all the solutions we agree upon can never materialize because the Senate president makes every effort to block progress if his self-interests are not included," added Fitial. "The Saipan casino measure would have provided additional resources for the people of Tinian and Rota, but their senators don't want relief for the people, they only want their subsistence allowance.

In fact, Fitial pointed out that when Rota needed assistance to jumpstart its casino industry, he approved Saipan Local Law 16-4, which provided a loan from the Saipan legislative delegation to the Rota Casino Gaming Commission. "As a result of this local law that I approved for the people of Rota, the commission loaned some \$290,000 from Saipan. What has happened since? A failed casino operation and the inability to pay back the funds they loaned," said Fitial. "So what has Manglona done to help? Nothing at all." (Office of the Governor)

to climate change which impact our island communities,"

world's coral reef systems.

"With very minimal built in-

bon emissions, yet we are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change," lamented Fitial. "The days of environmen-

Neighborhood watch refurbishes bus stop

By CLARISSA V. DAVID

Students and other community members who use the bus stop by the P&A Laundromat are in for a treat after P&A Corp. refurbished it.

The bus stop was painted green and now has a bench for commuters awaiting their rides. It also has the words "Promote healthy, safety, & caring community" and "Join Neighborhood Watch" noticeably painted on its walls.

Koblerville Neighborhood Watch Task Force members, Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho, Sgt. Anthony Macaranas and PO3 John Mendiola of the Department of Public Safety, and P&A Corp. officials and staff were at the site yesterday for a photo opportunity with the media.

P&A Corp. had five staffers do the restoration job for the bus stop for about two to three days beginning last Saturday, according to general manager Ho Joon Joo.

Joo said the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council approached them and sought their assistance in renovating the facility which previously didn't have a bench. He said part of the work done on the bus stop includes elevating it a bit since water during the rainy season is an issue for residents using it.

"This is part of our community service," Joo told Saipan Tribune. "It's just a small, minor thing that we did. Every chance that we get, we give back to the community."

Camacho, for his part, ex-



Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho, P&A Corp. general manager Ho Joon Joo and staffers, Sgt. Anthony Macaranas and PO3 John Mendiola, and Koblerville Neighborhood Watch Task Force members pose for a group photo by the newly renovated bus stop by the P&A laundromat in Koblerville yesterday morning.

pressed his appreciation to if we don't, we're going to in restoring what was once an eyesore in the village.

"I praise P&A Corp. for stepping forward and for an outstanding contribution in the community. They're not just after profits but they also care much about the community."

Camacho said this is not the first time that P&A Corp. made a contribution to the island. It has donated a greenhouse in Kagman, which is being used as a juvenile correction program.

"I encourage not just the Koblerville community but other villages as well to start policing our community because

P&A Corp. for their efforts be the ones affected by these for the students who wait for crimes," he said.

Camacho is also hopeful that through the bus stop, the Neighborhood Watch Task Force will be better promoted to the public.

"It's a good cause because it builds a bridge of relationship, trust, and caring to one another. If you don't have this, you don't build a relationship with your neighbor who is actually the closest who can respond to you in case of emergency," he added.

Koblerville Neighborhood Watch Task Force members Dolores Diaz and Mike Kubarii separately thanked P&A for the overhauling of the bus stop.

"This will be good especially their bus rides on their way to school. I think it will also encourage others to join the Neighborhood Watch because it's very important for us to cooperate and come together," said Kubarii.

Diaz, who recently joined the task force, emphasized the need to watch out for one another at a time when crimes are becoming more rampant on island.

"It's a good endeavor. We need to encourage others to join the group and report anything suspicious in our area," said Diaz, adding that the Neighborhood Watch Task Force helps curb criminal acts.

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Business

Court weighs making health coverage a fact of life

WASHINGTON

(AP)— Death, taxes and now health insurance? Having a medical plan or else paying a fine is about to become another certainty of American life, unless the Supreme Court says no.

People are split over the wisdom of President Barack Obama's health care overhaul, but they are nearly united against its requirement that everybody have insurance. The mandate is intensely unpopular even though more than 8 in 10 people in the United States already are covered by workplace plans or government programs such as Medicare. When the insurance obligation kicks in, not even two years from now, most people won't need to worry or buy anything new.

Americans Nonetheless, don't like being told how to spend their money, not even if it would help solve the problem of the nation's more than 50 million uninsured.

Can the government really tell us what to buy?

Federal judges have come down on both sides of the question, leaving it to the Supreme Court to sort out. The justices are allotting an unusually long period, six hours over three days, beginning March 26, to hear arguments challenging the

law's constitutionality.

Their ruling, expected in June, is shaping up as a historic moment in the century-long quest by reformers to provide affordable health care for all.

Many critics and supporters alike see the insurance requirement as the linchpin of Obama's health care law: Take away the mandate and the wheels fall off.

Politically it was a wobbly construction from the start. It seems half of Washington has flip-flopped over mandating insurance.

One critic dismissed the

idea this way: "If things were that easy, I could mandate everybody to buy a house and that would solve the problem of homelessness." That was Obama as a presidential candidate, who was against health insurance mandates before he was

Once elected, Obama decided a mandate could work as part of a plan that helps keep premiums down and assists those who can't afford them.

To hear Republicans rail against this attack on personal freedom, you'd never know the



In this March 23, 2010, file photo President Barack Obama reacts to cheers as he arrives for the signing ceremony of his health care bill in the East Room of the White House in Washington.

GOP preps for budget battle with Democrats, Obama

WASHINGTON (AP)—After a few months of relative peace on the budget front, Democrats and Republicans are readying for a party-defining, electionyear fight over trillion dollarplus deficits and what to do about them.

The focus in the week ahead will be on the conservativedominated House, where the Budget Committee chairman, Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., is fashioning a sequel to last year's "Path to Prosperity" manifesto that ignited a firestorm over Medicare.

The upcoming debate gives Republicans a chance to show how they would tackle out-ofcontrol budget deficits and rein in the cost and scope of government. Those are top issues for the conservative supporters counted on by Republicans to turn out in large numbers in the fall to maintain the GOP's control of the House.

President Barack Obama played it safe when he released his spending blueprint last month for the budget year that begins Oct. 1. It calls for tax increases on wealthier earners and modest spending curbs. But it would not address the spiraling costs of Medicare and Medicaid, the health care plan for the poor and disabled.

Last year's GOP measure proposed replacing Medicare fee-for-service payments to doctors and hospitals with a voucher-like program in which the government would subsidize purchases of health insurance on the private market.

Democrats said the subsidies would not keep up with inflation in medical costs and would shift costs to older people, and they accused Republicans of plotting to "end Medicare as we know it." The uproar was an important factor in a special election in which Democrats seized a longstanding GOP-held House seat in upstate New York. Republicans showed less enthusiasm for the plan after that.

Ryan has since come out with a less stringent version of the measure, in concert with Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., that would keep the traditional Medicare "fee for service" program as an option along with private insurance plans. It features more realistic inflation increases, and less resulting savings for the government, than last year's measure.

"This coming debt crisis is the most predictable crisis we've ever had in this country," Ryan said in a video statement. "This is why we're acting. This is why we're leading. This is why we're proposing—and passing out of the House—a budget to fix this problem: So we can save our country for ourselves and our children's future."

Ryan has yet to disclose the specifics of his plan. But the committee announced Saturday that Ryan would introduce the proposal Tuesday; that would allow his committee to sign off on it by the end of the week.

Pressure from conservative lawmakers has prompted GOP leaders and Ryan to reopen last summer's budget pact and impose further cuts on domestic agencies such as the departments of Education, Energy and Housing and Urban Development.

Last year's deal with Obama set a \$1.047 trillion cap on the annual operating budgets of Cabinet departments and other agencies for the upcoming 2013 budget year.

GOP aides say Republican leaders want to cut that figure by \$19 billion, or almost 2 percent, leading to protests from Democrats that Republicans are going back on the deal. The move would make it more difficult to pass follow-up spending bills setting agency budgets for new fiscal year.

Tea party lawmakers on the House Budget Committee, such as Rep. Mick Mulvaney, R-S.C., have pressed for even deeper cuts, leading to a push-and-pull match with the more pragmatic Republicans on the House Appropriations Committee.

idea came from them.

Its model was a Massachusetts law signed in 2006 by Mitt Romney, now the front-runner of the Republican presidential race, when he was governor. Another GOP hopeful, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, supported a mandate on individuals as an alternative to President Bill Clinton's health care proposal, which put the burden on employers.

All four GOP presidential candidates now promise to repeal the Affordable Care Act, which they call "Obamacare." Former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum calls it "the death knell for freedom.'

So much for compromise. Obama and congressional

Democrats pushed the mandate through in 2010, without

Republican support, in hopes of creating a fair system that ensures everyone, rich or poor, young or old, can get the health care they need. Other economically advanced coun-

Doing nothing is more expensive than most people realize.

tries have done it.

Congress found that when the uninsured go to clinics and emergency rooms, the care they can't pay for costs nearly \$75 billion a year. Much of that cost is passed along and ends up adding \$1,000 a year to the average family's insurance premium.

The overhaul is neither the liberal dream of a single government program supported by taxes and covering everyone nor the conservative vision of stripping away federal rules and putting free enterprise in charge.

The Obama plan relies on private companies plus lots of regulation to make sure they provide basic benefits, keep premiums reasonable, and cover the sick as well as the healthy. That's where the mandate comes in. If insurers must cover everyone, even those with existing medical conditions, healthy people have little incentive to sign up before they get sick.

Insurance companies argue that if only the sick sign up, insurers will go broke. So the law says everybody must have insurance for themselves and their children, or pay a penalty.

Also, because everyone needs health care sometime, if everyone purchases insurance, the price per person can be lower, with the cost of care spread out over many people.

Thai billionaire who created Red Bull dies

BANGKOK (AP)—Chaleo Yoovidhya, the self-made Thai billionaire who introduced the world to "energy drinks" and co-founded the globally popular Red Bull brand, has died. He was in his 80s.

Chaleo died of natural causes in Bangkok on Saturday, according to local media reports and state television broadcaster, MCOT, which cited the Thai Beverage Industry Association.

Forbes magazine, which ranked Chaleo the 205th richest man in the world this year with a net worth of \$5 billion dollars, said he was 80 years old. Several Thai media outlets cited his birth-date as Aug. 17, 1923, however, indicating he was 88. It was not immediately possible to explain the discrepancy.

Born in central Thailand's Pichit province to a Chinese father and a Thai mother who



In this undated photo, Thai billionaire Chaleo Yoovidhya is shown.

reportedly sold fruit and ducks to survive, Chaleo died the third richest man in Thailand.

Chaleo started a small company, T.C. Pharmaceuticals, in the 1960s and formulated an energy drink prototype a decade later called Krathing Daeng, or

Red Bull in English.

The drink became popular among truck drivers and other blue-collar workers throughout the country, but it remained a local phenomenon until Chaleo met Austrian entrepreneur Dietrich Mateschitz.

Together, the pair modified Chaleo's initial formula and founded the international Red Bull brand. Launched in 1987, Red Bull now sells billions of iconic slim cans across the world annually. Mateschitz and Chaleo each own roughly half of the company.

Thailand's daily Nation newspaper said Chaleo "will be remembered as a business and marketing genius who put the Thai energy drink on the global map."

He was married with five children, according to the Nation.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

IMF chief Lagarde urges more global finance reform

BEIJING (AP)—The head of the International Monetary Fund warned Sunday against complacency about global finance despite improved conditions after the latest Greek debt deal and said the world urgently needs more financial reforms. Speaking at a conference in Beijing to an audience of Chinese and foreign officials and business executives, Christine Lagarde said developed countries need to strengthen their financial systems and cope with high debt. She said developing countries need to improve their defenses against external shocks. "The world economy has stepped back from the brink and we have causes to be a little bit more optimistic," she said. "But optimism should not give us a sense of comfort and certainly should not lull us into a false sense of security."

Craig Dubow's received a severance package valued at about \$32 million after chronic health problems prompted his resignation from the largest U.S. and more than 80 other U.S. newspapers disclosed the details of Dubow's compensation in a regulatory filing late Friday. A contract that Dubow signed in February 2007 guaranteed he would receive his full pension, stock awards, a severance payment and other benefits if he became disabled. Dubow resigned last October after six years as CEO and 30 years with the company. He stepped down after taking two medical leaves during 2010 and 2011 to deal with hip and back ailments.

James Murdoch leaving board of Sotheby's

LONDON (AP)—News Corp. executive James Murdoch, under pressure over his role in Britain's tabloid phone hacking scandal, is stepping down from the board of Sotheby's, the auction house has said. In a filing to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on Friday, the auctioneer said Murdoch had decided not to stand for re-election at Sotheby's May 8 annual meeting in order to focus on his role as News Corp.'s deputy chief operating officer. The auctioneer said Murdoch had been "a valued member of the Sotheby's board." "Sotheby's will seek to find opportunities to continue to engage with Mr. Murdoch in the areas of his expertise," it said.

Former Gannett CEO gets \$32M severance package

MCLEAN, Va. (AP)—Former Gannett Co. CEO newspaper publisher. The owner of USA Today

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Nation

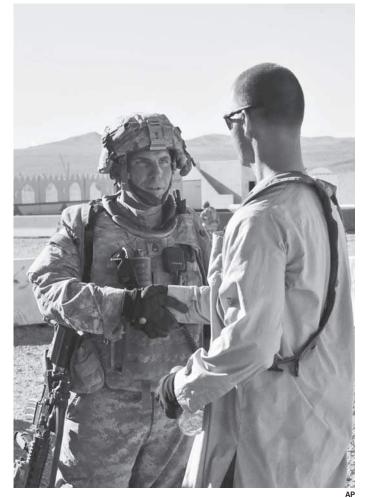
Money, career woes plagued Afghan killings suspect

LAKE TAPPS, Wash. (AP)— Bypassed for a promotion and struggling to pay for his house, Robert Bales was eyeing a way out of his job at a Washington state military base months before he allegedly gunned down 16 civilians in an Afghan war zone, records and interviews showed as a deeper picture emerged Saturday of the Army sergeant's financial troubles and brushes with the law.

While Bales, 38, sat in an isolated cell at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.'s military prison Saturday, classmates and neighbors from suburban Cincinnati, Ohio, remembered him as a "happygo-lucky" high school football player who took care of a special needs child and watched out for troublemakers in the neighborhood.

But court records and interviews show that the 10-year veteran—with a string of commendations for good conduct after four tours in Iraq and Afghanistan—had joined the Army after a Florida investment job went sour, had a Seattle-area home condemned, struggled to make payments on another and failed to get a promotion or a transfer a year ago.

His legal troubles included



In this Aug. 23, 2011 Defense Video & Imagery Distribution System photo, Staff Sgt. Robert Bales, left, 1st platoon sergeant, Blackhorse Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division participates in an exercise at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.

charges that he assaulted a girlfriend and, in a hit-and run accident, ran bleeding in military clothes into the woods, court records show. He told police he fell asleep at the wheel and paid a fine to get the charges dismissed, the records show.

Military officials say that after drinking on a southern Afghanistan base, Bales crept away on March 11 to two slumbering villages overnight, shooting his victims and setting many of them on fire. Nine of the 16 killed were children and 11 belonged to one family.

"This is some crazy stuff if it's true," Steve Berling, a high school classmate, said of the revelations about the father of two known as "Bobby" in his hometown of Norwood, Ohio.

Bales hasn't been charged yet in the shootings, which have endangered complicated relations between the U.S. and Afghanistan and threatened to upend U.S. policy over the decade-old war.

His former platoon leader said Saturday Bales was a model soldier inspired by 9/11 to serve who saved lives in firefights on his second of three Iraq deployments.

"He's one of the best guys I ever worked with," said Army Capt. Chris Alexander, who led the future, Kari Bales wrote last Bales on a 15-month deployment in Iraq.

"He is not some psychopath." He's an outstanding soldier who has given a lot for this country."

But pressing family troubles were hinted at by his wife, Kari, on multiple blogs posted with names like The Bales Family Adventures and BabyBales. A year ago, she wrote that Bales was hoping for a promotion or a transfer after nine years stationed at Joint Base Lewis-Mc-Chord outside Tacoma, Wash.

"We are hoping to have as much control as possible" over

March 25. "Who knows where we will end up. I just hope that we are able to rent our house so that we can keep it. I think we are both still in shock.'

After Bales lost out on a promotion to E7—a first-class sergeant—the family hoped to go to either Germany, Italy or Hawaii for an "adventure," she said. They hoped to move by last summer; instead the Army redeployed his unit—the 2nd Infantry Division of the 3rd Stryker Brigade, named after armored Stryker vehicles—to Afghanistan.

Romney, Santorum head to Ill., next battleground

BAYAMON, Puerto Rico (AP)—Looking toward the critical primary in Illinois, Republican presidential front-runner Mitt Romney wrapped up a shortened campaign trip to Puerto Rico on Saturday as he prepared for more tough contests against chief rival Rick Santorum.

The former Massachusetts governor dramatically curtailed his trip to the U.S. territory, which holds its primary Sunday, in favor of spending more time in Illinois, where polls have shown him slightly ahead of Santorum. Romney had planned to spend the weekend and visit a polling place Sunday, but instead left the island immediately after a morning appearance.

Santorum left Puerto Rico earlier this week and spent the morning in Missouri, where he already won a primary that awarded no delegates. Missouri Republicans were meeting in county caucuses Saturday, the first step toward choosing delegates to the national convention who are committed to specific candidates. Santorum then headed to Illinois Saturday afternoon, where he went on the attack against Romney.

"If you want to know where Mitt Romney's going to be, just watch the Weather Channel," Santorum said in a high school gymnasium in the town of Herrin.

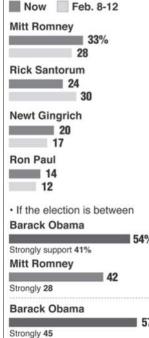
Romney campaigned Saturday morning with Puerto Rican Gov. Luis Fortuno, shopping for tropical fruit and meeting with voters a day after a massive, energetic rally in San Juan celebrated his arrival here.

"It was Ronald Reagan who very famously in our party said that it was important for the people of Puerto Rico to have the choice to become a state, and if the people of Puerto Rico choose that path, I will be happy to lead that effort in Washing-

ELECTION 2012

Looking down the road Though Rick Santorum has won two recent Republican primaries, Mitt Romney beats him in national polls. President Barack Obama tops both in head-to-head matchups.

· GOP nomination preference



ton," Romney said after the crowd began chanting "Statehood now! Statehood now!"

Source: Pew Research Center poll of 1,503 adults (includes 538 Republican/Republican-leaners), March 7-11, 2012; margin of error: +/-3

Rick Santorum

The island's political status-statehood, independence or no change—is the critical issue underlying Sunday's primary. Puerto Ricans will vote on the island's status in November.

Romney has support from much of the establishment here, including Fortuno, who supports making the island the fifty-first state, and Romney is confident about his prospects for winning many of the island's 20 delegates.

Obama to Congress: Kill oil industry's tax breaks

WASHINGTON (AP)—Pump prices on his mind, President Barack Obama says Congress should kill tax breaks for the oil and gas industry and help develop alternative sources of energy.

Obama said Saturday in his weekly radio and Internet address that he expected Congress to consider in the next few weeks ending \$4 billion in tax subsidies, a move he has failed to persuade lawmakers to make during his term. He said the vote would put them on record on whether they "stand up for oil companies" or "stand up for the American people."

"They can either place their bets on a fossil fuel from the last century or they can place their bets on America's future," Obama said.

Industry officials and many Republicans in Congress contend that cutting the tax breaks would lead to higher fuel prices, raising costs on oil companies and affecting their investments in exploration and production. The measure is considered a long shot, given that Obama couldn't end the subsidies when Democrats controlled Congress earlier in his term.

Republican presidential candidates have accused Obama of delaying drilling for oil in the Gulf of Mexico and in a naand faulted him for not advancing the Keystone XL oil pipeline from Canada to Texas Gulf Coast refineries. They have also criticized policies pursued by the Environmental Protection Agency as inhibiting energy development.

Obama said there is no quick fix to high gas prices, which climbed to \$3.83 on Friday according to AAA, but he pushed back against critics who say he is opposed to more drilling. He said the U.S. is producing more oil than at any time in the past eight years and has quadrupled the number of operating oil rigs.

"If we're truly going to make tional wildlife refuge in Alaska sure we're not at the mercy of spikes in gas prices every year, the answer isn't just to drill more—because we're already drilling more," Obama said. He said his administration was trying to develop wind and solar power, biofuels and usher in more fuelefficient vehicles to make the nation less dependent on oil.

In the weekly Republican address, Rep. Cory Gardner, R-Colo., said his constituents have been hard hit by an increase in gasoline prices and were "fed up with the way the president is handling this issue, and rightfully so. The most forceful thing the president has done about high gas prices is try to explain that he's against them."

Occupy protest anniversary ends with police sweep NEW YORK (AP)—Chanting products on clients as it sought again, drawing slogans in park into the evening hours.

and cheering down Wall Street on Saturday to mark six months since the birth of the Occupy movement, some protesters applauded the Goldman Sachs employee who days ago gave the firm a public drubbing, echoing the movement's indictment of a financial system demonstrators say is fueled by reckless greed.

"I kind of like to think that the Occupy movement helped him to say, 'Yeah, I really can't do this anymore," retired librarian Connie Bartusis said of the op-ed piece by Goldman Sachs manager Greg Smith, who claimed the company regularly foisted failing to make more money.

Carrying a sign with the words "Regulate Regulate Regulate," Bartusis said the loss of governmental checks on the financial system helped create the climate of unfettered self-interest described by Smith in his piece, although Goldman's leadership suggested he had not portrayed the bank's culture accurately.

"Greed is a very powerful force," Bartusis said. "That's what got us in trouble."

On Saturday, six months after the protesters first took over Zuccotti Park near the city's financial district, the protesters gathered there

chalk on the pavement and waving flags as they marched through lower Manhattan.

The observance ended at the park where the movement began when police declared the park closed Saturday night and swept through the excited and sometimes agitated crowd, arresting some protesters as they went. A spokesperson for Occupy Wall Street estimated dozens of protesters were arrested.

With the city's attention earlier focused on the huge St. Patrick's Day parade many blocks uptown, the Occupy rally at Zuccotti drew hundreds of people, with many gathering in the

Documentary filmmaker Michael Moore, who had given a speech at a nearby university, also made an appearance at the park, milling around with protesters.

With the barricades that once blocked them from Wall Street now removed, the protesters streamed down the sidewalk and covered the steps of the Federal Hall National Memorial. There, steps from the New York Stock Exchange and standing at the feet of a statue of George Washington, they danced and chanted, "We are unstoppable."

Police say arrests had been made, but they don't have a full count yet.

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Asia

Shooting spree hastens decline to win over Afghans

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)— The massacre of 16 Afghan civilians was a dagger to the U.S.-led coalition's hearts and minds campaign, which was already in decline after 10 years of war.

Coalition forces will still help bolster the Afghan government and security forces in coming years, but Afghans increasingly believe America's only mission is to leave as soon as it can.

Even President Hamid Karzai, the long-standing U.S. partner in Afghanistan, has turned toxic. He told the U.S. to pull its troops out of Afghan villages and said it's fine with him if international forces wrap up their combat mission early.

Afghans already were worried about what will happen when international troops hand over the lead combat role to Afghan forces next year. Then, a rapid-fire succession of events shattered their trust in America, hastening an end to the effort to win over the Afghan population.

In January, a video purportedly showing American Marines laughing and urinating on the corpses of Taliban fighters surfaced on the Web. In February. Muslim holy books were burned at a U.S. base north of Kabul in what President Barack Obama said was a terrible mistake. A week ago, a U.S. soldier allegedly went on a shooting rampage in



Afghan school boys chant anti-U.S. slogans during a protest in Jalalabad, Nangarhar province, east of Kabul, Afghanistan, Saturday, March 17, 2012.

two villages in Kandahar province, killing nine children, four men and three women and burning some of their bodies.

After the shooting spree, Karzai expressed exasperation, saying he was at the "end of the rope" over rising civilian deaths, even though the Taliban are responsible for more.

"Continuously, I have told the Americans to leave our villages. You are not needed in our villages. There is no terrorism there," Karzai said during an emotional meeting at the palace on Friday with the shooting victims' families from Panjwai district of Kandahar province.

"If these incidents continue, then the foreign mission will

The recent events have further complicated efforts to negotiate a U.S.-Afghanistan partnership document that will outline America's presence in the country after 2014.

"They do not respect women, children, the clerics. They don't respect the culture of the Af-

Nick Whitney, former head of

ghans," said Nasurullah Sadiqizada, an Afghan lawmaker from Day Kundi province in central Afghanistan. "Is it good for Afghanistan to sign a strategic partnership with these kinds of things happening to our people?"

the European Union's European Defense Agency, said that incidents such as the shootings and

> "We know that even if the NATO forces achieve enough success to leave, this only means that we should be ready for the civil war to began," between the Taliban fighters, who are mostly from the majority Pashtun ethnic group, and minorities persecuted during Taliban rule, who back the international forces.

the burning the Qurans undermine any pretense that NATO is in Afghanistan because it wants to help the population.

"These incidents just underline the fact that the game is up for NATO," said Whitney, a senior policy fellow at the Paris-based European Council on Foreign Relations. "It's been a lost cause for a number of years. In their heart of hearts, elites across Europe have know this for a long time."

Faith in the U.S. has broken down so much, that residents especially in the south— have started believing that American troops are looking for excuses to leave before the end of 2014.

"Living during the NATO war against the Taliban has already been hard," said Abdul Qayum Khan, who runs a store that sells refrigerators and home electronics in Kandahar. "Now, knowing that Americans are finding ways to make their run and leave us in chaos, it is worse.

"Government officials are already shifting their families abroad and settling there, which shows that they already know what's about to come. It's getting dangerous out here and we can sense it too."

Abdul Manan Zamaryal is considering closing his photo shop in Kandahar, packing up his family and moving to Quetta, Pakistan.

AFGHANISTAN PAKISTAN

Violent incidents fan feelings of mistrust

- 1. Jan. 12 Video surfaces; shows U.S. Marines urinating on the bodies of dead Taliban fighters made sometime in 2011 in Helmand Province
- 2. Feb. 20 Afghan workers find charred copies of Quran in fire pit at U.S.-run Bagram Air Base
- 3. Feb. 23 Two U.S. soldiers shot dead by Afghan soldier at base during protest over quran burnings
- 4. Feb. 24 Two U.S. officers, advisors to Afghan Interior Ministry, shot at close range in high-security area by police intelligence officer
- 5. Feb. 27 Suicide bomber kills nine, including two U.S. soldiers, at base in Jalalabad
- 6. March 1 Two U.S. soldiers killed at a base in Kandahar by two Afghan soldiers and a civilian literacy instructor
- 7. March 11 U.S. soldier walks off base and kills 16

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India links Delhi attack on Israeli to Thai plot

NEW DELHI (AP)—Indian police say a bomb attack that wounded an Israeli diplomat's wife in New Delhi last month is connected to a suspected plot to attack Israeli targets in Bangkok that was blamed on a group of Iranians.

Israel has accused Iran of orchestrating those plots as well as a failed bombing in the former Soviet republic of Georgia that also targeted an Israeli diplomat. Iran has denied any involvement.

Indian authorities had previously declined to implicate Iran in the Feb. 13 attack in New Delhi that wounded the diplomat's wife and three others with a bomb attached to her car by a magnet. However, they said the investigation is increasingly centering on Iranians and people with ties to Iran.

Last week, police arrested an Indian freelance journalist who reportedly worked for Iranian news organizations. Earlier this week, they issued arrest warrants for three Iranian men who had left the country.

Delhi Police Commissioner B.K. Gupta told reporters Friday that one of those three men. Housan Afshar, had been in contact with Masoud Sedaghatzadeh, who was earlier arrested in Malaysia and accused of involvement in the Bangkok blast.

On Saturday, a Delhi court issued an arrest warrant for Sedaghatzadeh for suspected involvement in the Delhi blast.

Police will seek to have him extradited from Malaysia, the Press Trust of India news agencv said.

India is asking Interpol for assistance in finding and extraditing the men, according to Foreign Ministry spokesman Syed Akbaruddin.

'We have informed the Iranian ambassador of these developments so as to seek the cooperation of the Iranian authorities in bringing those involved in this dastardly attack to justice," he said in a statement.

Police accused Sedaghatzadeh of being the operational head of the group that was planning the Bangkok attacks and said his arrest in Malaysia led them to Afshar. Gupta said police found that Afshar and the Indian journalist, Syed Mohammed Kazmi, had been in telephone contact.

Police said the Iranians had performed reconnaissance at the Israeli Embassy last May before returning to Delhi in January and February to plan the attack. Two of the three suspects left India before the attack and the third left shortly afterward, police said.

Gupta said Kazmi was deeply involved in the reconnaissance.

"He has been arrested as a facilitator and for being a part of the conspiracy. His questioning brought to light that he has been in contact with persons of Iranian origin involved in the attack for some time," Gupta told reporters.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A

ASIAN BRIEFS

5.9 magnitude quake

sparks stampede in PH

5.9 magnitude earthquake struck the southern Philippines on Friday, causing minor damage and a mall stampede that left at least 23 people injured, officials said. Most of the injured were sent home after being treated for minor cuts. Two people who were crushed remained in hospital for observation, said George Tremedal, a hospital doctor. The quake was centered 2 kilometers (1.2 miles) off Dinagat Island near southeastern Surigao del Norte province, said Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology chief Renato Solidum. No tsunami alert was raised.

(AP)—North Korea says it will go ahead with plans to launch an observation satellite into space and that criticism of it is provocative. North Korea said

Friday it would launch the satellite on a rocket next month. The U.S., South Korea and Japan condemn the plan as a disguised test of military missiles because the same type of rocket is used to launch long-range missiles. Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency said Sunday such criticism is a "sinister" provocation by "hostile forces." It says North Korea has a right to peaceful development in space.

Pakistan extends hold of bin Laden widows

ISLAMABAD (AP)—A Pakistani official says a judge has allowed authorities to hold three widows of al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden in custody for another 10 days, pending their trial for living in the country without valid documents. The women have been in detention since May last year when U.S. commandos killed bin Laden at his home in the northwest. The women had been living there with eight of their children and three employees.

Thousands mourn Tibetan self-immolator in China

BEIJING (AP)—Thousands of Tibetans gathered to mourn a farmer who died after dousing himself in kerosene and setting himself on fire to protest Chinese rule in Tibetan areas, a U.S. broadcaster said.

A London-based rights group said Saturday's funeral turned into a protest march, with thousands calling for freedom and the return to Tibet of the Dalai Lama, their exiled spiritual leader. The incident, as with most reported unrest in Tibetan areas, could not be independently verified.

Nearly 30 Tibetans have set

themselves on fire over the past year to protest the suppression of their religion and culture and to call for the return the Dalai Lama, who fled the Himalayan region in 1959 amid an abortive uprising against Chinese rule and is reviled by Beijing.

The communist government has blamed supporters of the Dalai Lama for encouraging the self-immolations.

U.S. broadcaster Radio Free Asia said in an emailed statement that Sonam Thargyal, a 44-year-old farmer and father of four, fastened cotton padding to his body with iron wire and doused himself with kerosene before setting himself on fire Saturday in Tongren, a monastery town in western China's Qinghai province. He also drank kerosene, the broadcaster said.

"The Tibetans who were at the scene attempted to put out the flames, but death was very fast because of the kerosene inside and outside the body," RFA quoted Dorjee Wangchuk, a Tibetan exiled in Dharamsala, India, with close ties to the Tongren community, as saying.

Thargyal called out for an end

to Chinese rule in Tibetan-populated areas, the return of the Dalai Lama and Tibetan language rights, RFA said.

As many as 7,000 Tibetans took part in Thargyal's funeral and cremation ceremony, the broadcaster said.

The London-based rights group Free Tibet posted photos on its website of what it said was Thargyal's charred body covered in ceremonial yellow silk scarves and hundreds of people marching up a hill to the local cremation site, where his remains were burned.

NKorea vows to go ahead with rocket launch plans

PYONGYANG, North Korea

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2012 **17** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

World

Twin suicide blasts kill dozens in Syrian capital

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)— Two suicide bombers detonated cars packed with explosives in near-simultaneous attacks on heavily guarded intelligence and security buildings in the Syrian capital Damascus Saturday, killing at least 27 people.

There have been a string of large-scale bombings against the regime in its stronghold of Damascus that suggest a dangerous, wild-card element in the year-old anti-government revolt. The regime blamed the opposition, which denied having a role or the capabilities to carry out such a sophisticated attack. And after other similar attacks, U.S. officials suggested al-Qaida militants may be joining the fray.

sions struck the heavily fortified air force intelligence building and the criminal security department, several miles apart in Damascus, at approximately the same time, the Interior Ministry said. Much of the facade of the intelligence building appeared to have been ripped away.

State-run news agency SANA said a third blast went off near a military bus at the Palestinian refugee camp Yarmouk in Damascus, killing the two suicide bombers.

"All our windows and doors are blown out," said Majed Seibiyah, 29, who lives in the area of one of the blasts. "I was sleeping when I heard a sound like an earthquake. I didn't grasp what was happening until The early morning explo- I heard screaming in the street."

US man captured by militia in Iraq released to UN

The first explosion around 7 a.m. targeted the air force intelligence building in the residential district of al-Qassaa, a predominantly Christian area. It caused destruction in a 100-meter (yard) radius, shattering windows, blowing doors off their hinges and throwing chairs and other furniture off balconies.

State TV aired gruesome images of the scene, with mangled and charred corpses, bloodstained streets and twisted steel.

It carried interviews with the wounded in hospital.

"Is this the assistance promised by Qatar and Saudi Arabia?" asked one of the injured.

The two Gulf powerhouses have been fiercely critical of the Syrian government's crackdown on dissent and have been discussing military aid to the rebels. The U.N. says well over 8,000 have died since the uprising began a year ago, inspired by Arab Spring revolts across the Middle East and North Africa.

A string of previous blasts that struck the capital, also suicide bombings, have killed dozens of people since December.

The government has blamed the explosions on the "terrorists" that it claims are behind

the uprising. The opposition has denied any role, saying they believe forces loyal to the government are behind the bombings in a plot to tarnish the uprising.

But top U.S. intelligence officials also have pointed to al-Qaida in Iraq as the likely culprit behind the previous bombings, raising the possibility its fighters are infiltrating across the border to take advantage of the turmoil.

Al-Qaida's leader called for

President Bashar Assad's ouster in February.

A previously unknown Islamist group calling itself Al-Nusra Front to Protect the Levant claimed responsibility for the previous attacks in a video posted online, saying it carried them out "to avenge the people of Homs." Homs is an opposition stronghold in central Syria that has been hard-hit in the government crackdown.



Syrian security officers investigate a damaged building near the aviation intelligence department, which was attacked by one of two explosions, in Damascus, Syria, on Saturday, March 17, 2012.

Pope of Egypt's Coptic Christian Church dies

CAIRO, Egypt (AP)—Pope a year ago of President Hosni Shenouda III, the patriarch of the Coptic Orthodox Church who led Egypt's Christian minority for 40 years during a time of increasing tensions with Muslims, died Saturday. He was 88.

His death comes as the country's estimated 10 million Christians are feeling more vulnerable than ever amid the rise of Islamic movements to political power after the toppling Mubarak. The months since have seen a string of attacks on the community, heightened anti-Christian rhetoric by ultraconservatives known as Salafis and fears that coming governments will try to impose strict versions of Islamic law.

Tens of thousands of Christians packed into the main Coptic cathedral in Cairo on Saturday evening hoping to see his body. Women in black wept and

screamed. Some, unable to get into the overcrowded building, massed outside, raising their hands in prayer.

"He left us in a very hard time. Look at the country and what's happening now," said Mahrous Munis, a Christian IT worker in his 30s who was among the crowds. "Copts are in a worse situation than before. God be with us."

Munis' friend, Sherif Sabry, interrupted. "He was our rock. God help us find someone who can fill his place."

An archbishop later announced to the crowd that the funeral would be held in three days, and in the meantime Shenouda's body would be put on display in the cathedral, sitting in the Mar Morqos— or St. Mark— throne from which the pope in his elaborate regalia traditionally oversaw services.

Shenouda died in his residence at the cathedral, and the state news agency MENA said he had been battling liver and lung problems for several years. Yasser Ghobrial, a physician who treated Shenouda at a Cairo hospital in 2007, said he suffered from prostate cancer that spread to his colon and lungs.

U.S. President Barack Obama paid tribute to Shenouda as "an advocate for tolerance and religious dialogue."

BAGHDAD (AP)—Wear-"I was taken inside Baghdad

ing a U.S. Army uniform and flanked by Iraqi lawmakers, an American citizen announced Saturday that he was being released from more than nine months of imprisonment by a Shiite militia that for years targeted U.S. troops.

The man did not identify himself. But at a bizarre press conference outside the Green Zone in Baghdad, lawmakers showed U.S.-issued military and contractor ID cards that identified him as Randy Michael Hultz.

Speaking calmly and tripping over Arabic names in a monotone voice, Hultz said he was grateful for his release.

"It was explained to me that this is a gift to me, my family and to the American people who oppose the war," he said at the press conference that was held for Iraqi media.

He gave scant details of what he described as a "kidnapping," or how he was treated while captured.

and kept in and around different locations within the city," Hultz said. The kidnappers, he said, were from the Promised Day Brigade, a branch of the Mahdi Army, which is a militia that is controlled by the anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

Al-Sadr's militia led some of the bloodiest attacks against American troops at the height of the sectarian fighting in Iraq that brought the country to the brink of civil war. Followers of the cleric, who currently is believed to be studying in Iran, led the government's demands for U.S. troops to leave Iraq last December after nearly nine vears of war.

Al-Sadr disbanded most of his militia and joined politics although he kept the Promised Day Brigade, a smaller group of fighters who carried out attacks against U.S.

troops and facilities.

The Shiite cleric's political wing has 40 lawmakers in parliament, two of whom appeared with Hultz late Saturday.

Hultz was flanked at the press conference by lawmakers Maha al-Douri and Qusay al-Suhail, the deputy speaker of Iraq's parliament. Al-Douri read a statement she said was from the Promised Day Brigade, which said it kidnapped Hultz mainly as "revenge for the beloved Iraqi nation and restrain for the American forces."

Al-Douri said the militia released Hultz without any negotiating or pressure from the government or diplomats. She called the release "a gift to his family" and "to explain the picture of real Islam.'

"This is a clear message from the sons of Iraq to the U.S. administration about the good will to liberate Iraq and its complete sovereignty," she said. She said Hultz is 59.

WORLD BRIEFS

Chavez makes energetic homecoming after surgery

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—President Hugo Chavez led an energetic homecoming celebration on Saturday, rallying thousands of supporters from a balcony of the presidential palace after three weeks in Cuba for cancer surgery. Chavez turned the event into a campaign rally, vowing to win re-election in the Oct. 7 presidential vote and demanding unity from his followers. Returning to the combativeness that has characterized much of his 13-year presidency, Chavez insulted his opponents and denounced a state governor who recently broke ranks with his party as a "traitor to the revolution." The president referred to his health only briefly, saying he will start radiation therapy treatment in the coming days "in order to attack any new threat."

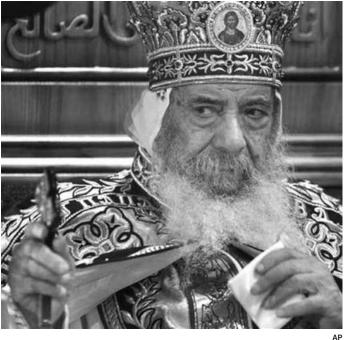
Chile consul's daughter killed by Venezuela police

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—The 19-year-old daughter of a Chilean diplomat in Venezuela was shot to death by police at a road checkpoint early

Saturday. Fernando Berendique, Chile's consul in the western city of Maracaibo, said his daughter, Karen, was riding in a vehicle with her brother and another young man when she was killed. He said the trio ignored a command to stop by police at the checkpoint, fearing the officers might be robbers. Violent crime is widespread in Venezuela. Venezuelan authorities said the young woman was hit by three bullets.

John Demjanjuk, convicted death camp guard, dies

BERLIN (AP)—John Demjanjuk was convicted of being a low-ranking guard at the Sobibor death camp, but his 35-year fight on three continents to clear his name—a legal battle that had not yet ended when he died Saturday at age 91-made him one of the best-known faces of Nazi prosecutions. The conviction of the retired Ohio autoworker in a Munich court in May on 28,060 counts of being an accessory to murder, which was still being appealed, broke new legal ground in Germany as the first time someone was convicted solely on the basis of serving as a camp guard, with no evidence of involvement in a specific killing.



In this April 18, 2009 file photo, Pope Shenouda III, the head of Egypt's Coptic Orthodox Church, leads a midnight service to celebrate Christ's resurrection, at the Coptic Cathedral in Cairo, Egypt.

18 MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2012 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Health & Fitness

'Pink slime' sounds gross, but how does it taste?

AP Food Editor

ll this angst over "pink slime" has made one thing clear: We don't always know what we're getting when we bite into a big juicy burger. Which leaves unanswered some of the most basic questions in the debate over what the meat industry calls lean finely textured beef, a processed meat filler that experts say has found its way into much of the ground beef consumed in the United States.

But as a professional eater, I needed to know two things: What does this stuff do to the taste and texture of ground beef? And how can consumers know when they're eating it?

Neither answer came easily, the former because of the sheer volume of beef I needed to eat, the latter because of the rather opaque way ground beef is made.

`SLIME' IN THE NEWS

For schools, that opacity began to clear Thursday, when the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced that as of the fall the National School Lunch Program will allow districts to choose ground beef that does not contain the product. Previously, it was difficult for schools to know whether the beef they bought from the feds had it or not.

That's because pink slime no matter what you call it or what you think of it—really is made from beef and therefore doesn't need to be listed as a separate ingredient.

But Thursday's announcement doesn't do much for the average consumer.

steak, and it is nearly always labeled by the cut of beef it's from. There was a time when ground beef was similarly labeled and you knew at least roughly what part of the animal you were getting. And though some packages still indicate "ground chuck" or "ground sirloin," today most is labeled simply as "ground beef."

Most consumers don't care. They'd rather focus on another part of the —the fat percentage. And producers don't care. It has made it easier for them to take a more amalgamated approach to ground beef, using whatever cuts they want or have without



A hamburger made from ground beef containing what is derisively referred to as "pink slime," or what the meat industry calls "lean, finely textured beef," right, and one made from pure 85% lean ground beef are ready for tasting Thursday, March 15, 2012 in Concord, N.H. Under a change announced Thursday by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, districts that get food through the government's school lunch program will be allowed to say no to ground beef containing the ammonia-treated filler and choose filler-free meat instead. The low-cost filler is made from fatty meat scraps that are heated to remove most of the fat, then treated with ammonium hydroxide gas to kill bacteria such as E. coli and salmonella.

Have nuts instead

Substituting for a serving of red meat* daily ...

lowers mortality risk by									
Nuts	Whole grains	Poultry	Legumes	Low-fat dairy	Fish				
-19%	-14	-14	-10	-10	-7				
		¥	₩)						

*Combines unprocessed and processed red meat consumption categories Source: American Medical Association

Unprocessed **Processed** red meat red meat

Having an additional serving

... increases mortality risk by

of red meat daily ...

Graphic: Los Angeles Times

worrying about spelling it out. Now introduce lean finely

textured beef, and the meat pic-

ture is further muddied.

The product is made from At the grocer, a steak is a bits of meat left over from other cuts. It's heated and spun to remove the fat, then compressed into blocks for mixing into conventional ground beef. Because it's so lean and inexpensive, producers often mix it into fat-

tier meat to produce an overall

leaner product. That means two packages labeled "ground beef 80 percent lean" may look and sound the same but be composed of different meats. One could be unadulterated ground beef made from cuts of meat containing 20 percent fat. The other could be made from poorer quality much fattier—meat but cut with and made leaner by pink slime, a term coined by a federal microbiologist grossed out by it and now widely used by critics and food activists.

How do you tell the difference? For the most part, you

"You can't differentiate beef from beef," said Jeremy Russell, a spokesman for the National Meat Association, which represents processors, suppliers and exporters. "Talking to your retailer would be the only way."

So that's what I did. But it got me only partial answers.

THE FIELD RESEARCH

At grocer No. 1, the folks behind the butcher counter were able to show me one brand, a pricy "all-natural" ground beef that did not contain the meat filler. But for the many other and far less expensive varieties

of ground beef? They had no way of knowing.

Grocer No. 2 presented the opposite problem. The workers there found one brand that definitely did have the pink stuff, but they couldn't say whether any others did or didn't.

And don't be fooled by the "all-natural" beef label at store No. 1. That term is unregulated, so it doesn't really mean anything. At another store, another brand of ground beef could be similarly labeled but still contain the meat filler.

But the term "organic" is regulated, and that provides a clue. If you can find it—and are willing to pay the priceground beef labeled organic cannot contain lean finely textured beef.

Despite the odds, I had lucked out. Between the two grocers. I'd managed to identify two packages of 85 percent lean ground beef, one with pink slime and one without. Time to taste.

By label alone, it was clear we were talking different beef demographics. The pink slimefree product bragged that it was minimally processed and that the cows had been raised without antibiotics, growth hormones or animal byproducts in their food. Price - \$5.99 per pound. The pink slime version? Just a minimalist "compare and save." Price - \$3.09 per pound.

Outwardly, they seemed the same: They smelled the same, and they looked basically the same, though the pink slime sample was slightly lighter in color. Until you touched them. The all-natural sample was slightly fattier to touch. That seemed odd, since both products should have the same fat content.

INTO THE MOUTH

For the taste test, I kept it simple and pure. I formed a half-pound of each ground beef into a thick burger patty, adding nothing to the meat. And though I prefer my burgers on the grill, I decided to fry these in a skillet because it's easier to control the cooking, ensuring both would be cooked to the same degree and under the same conditions.

I added nothing to the pan. Meat this fatty generally bleeds out a robust amount of grease, so I wasn't concerned with sticking. That was my second surprise. The pink slime patty released very little fat during cooking. The other patty gave off two or three times as much.

About 5 minutes per side, and I declared them medium-rare. After giving them a few minutes to rest, I seasoned them lightly with salt and pepper, then cut in.

First, the unadulterated burger. The aroma was luscious. The meat was juicy, tender and nicely seared. Where I'd cut, juices slowly dribbled out onto the plate, collecting in a pool. The taste was savory and meaty, with big beefy flavor. The chew had just the right texture, substantial but giving. Basically, everything you would want in a burger.

The pink slime burger also was perfectly seared and drew me in with an equally alluring aroma. But no juices collected on the plate. Or dribbled out. Or were apparent in the meat in really any way. The taste was— OK. I took another taste of the first burger, then back to the pink slime burger.

It was not bad. But nor was it good. It was flat. I added more salt. No. It was simply one-dimensional.

And then there was the texture. Unpleasantly chewy bits of what I can only describe as gristle, though they were not visible, seemed to stud the meat of the pink slime burger. The result was a mealy chew that, while not overtly unpleasant, didn't leave me wanting another bite.

Of course, I did take another bite. In the interest of good journalism, I ate both burgers entirely. And then I felt sick. I'm confident that has nothing to do with slime of any sort.



A hamburger made from ground beef containing what is derisively referred to as "pink slime," or what the meat industry calls "lean, finely textured beef," right, and one made from pure 85% lean ground beef are displayed in front of uncooked portions of those meats Thursday, March 15, 2012 in Concord, N.H.

MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2012 **19** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Life & Style

Apple firestorm leads artist to change his show

NEW YORK (AP)—Mike Daisey, the off-Broadway performer who admitted that he made up parts of his one-man show about Apple products being made in Chinese sweatshops, has cut questionable sections from the monologue and added a prologue explaining the controversy.

Oskar Eustis, artistic director of The Public Theater, where the monologue is being performed, said Saturday that Daisey has "eliminated anything he doesn't feel he can stand behind" from the show and added a section at the beginning in which he addresses the questions raised by critics.

Eustis called the prologue "the best possible frame we could give the audience for the controversy" and said Daisey agreed to make the changes himself, which are "his and his alone."

"Mike is a great storyteller, not a journalist. I wish he had been clearer about that distinction in the making of this piece," Eustis said after seeing Saturday's matinee performance. "If we had understood the rules Mike was using to make the show, we would have framed it differently from the outset."

Daisey portrayed his work as fact during a media blitz to promote his critically acclaimed show, and he misled dozens of news and entertainment outlets, including the popular public radio show "This American Life," The Associated Press, The New York Times, MSNBC and HBO's "Real Time with Bill Maher."

But in an interview with "This American Life" host Ira Glass broadcast Friday, Daisey acknowledged that some of the claims in his show, "The Agony and the Ecstasy of Steve Jobs," weren't true. The show retracted its Jan. 6 episode because Glass said he couldn't vouch for the truth of its claims.

Daisey, who admitted Friday on his website that the work is a mix of fact and fiction, did not respond to questions sent to his personal email account, and his publicist did not respond to a request for comment Saturday.

The controversy is unlikely to lessen the media scrutiny of the Chinese factories that make Apple products, since news outlets including the Times have reported about the dangerous working conditions in them, including explosions inside iPad plants where four people were killed and 77 were injured.

But some of Daisey's older monologues might get a second look.

"If he had only chosen to actually utilize what theatre allows you to do-which is to transform fact into something that retains an emotional truth," said Howard Sherman, a former executive director of the American Theatre Wing and an arts administrator and producer. He



In this undated image released by The Public Theater, Mike Daisey is shown in a scene from "The Agony and The Ecstasy of Steve Jobs," in New York. Daisey, whose latest show has been being credited with sparking probes into how Apple's high-tech devices are made, is finding himself under fire for distorting the truth.

didn't see Daisey's show but said he thought it might "call into question people who do this in the future."

Daisey is just the latest artist to apparently get tripped up by the truth—joining a list that includes James Frey, who admitted that he lied in his memoir "A Million Little Pieces," and Greg Mortenson, who is accused of fabricating key parts of his best-selling book "Three Cups of Tea."

The controversy raised once again the question of the artist's role in society and what his or her responsibility is to the truth. And has Daisey ultimately hurt or harmed the very people he was trying to help?

Terry Teachout, chief theater critic for The Wall Street Journal, called Daisy a talented artist but said the episode was "unforgivable," and Peter Marks, the critic for The Washington Post, tweeted that Daisey's "zeal seems to have gotten the better of his judgment." Chris Jones at the Chicago Tribune suspected Daisey "was seduced by the glare of attention."

The controversy put The Public, where the work ends its second run on Sunday, in a difficult spot—protective of artists and their right to free expression but also sensitive to audience concerns.

"We do not and cannot fact check our artists; we're a theater, not a news organization. The vast majority of what occurs on our stages is fiction. If we didn't believe fiction could reveal truth, we would have to give up our profession. With that said, it obviously matters a great deal to me that our audience understands what they are seeing," Eustis said.

Daisey, who performs his monologues seated at a desk and using notes, has previously tackled everything from dysfunctional dot-coms to the international financial crisis. A movie has been made of his monologue "If You See Something Say Something," and in a weird twist, he did a 2006 show called "Truth" about how art and fact mix. In it, Daisey admitted he once fabricated a story because it "connected" with the audience.

Daisey told Glass he felt conflicted about presenting things that he knew weren't true. But he said he felt "trapped" and was afraid people would no longer care about the abuses at the factories if he didn't present things in a dramatic way.

In an interview with the AP last year when his show was first in New York, Daisey's passion for humane treatment of Chinese workers was evident. "Artists are people who are called to action," he said. "If they're not active then they're probably asleep.'

An Apple spokeswoman declined again Saturday to comment on the revelations about the monologue. The company has been rebutting Daisey's allegations for months, to little effect.

Before he scrubbed the monologue, Daisey described traveling to the Chinese industrial zone of Shenzhen and interviewing hundreds of workers from Foxconn Technology Group, the world's largest electronics contract manufacturer. Daisey said he stood outside the gate with a translator and met workers as young as 12 and some whose joints were damaged because they performed the same action thousands of times a shift.

"I talk to people whose joints in their hands have disintegrated from working on the line, doing the same motion hundreds and hundreds of thousands of times. It's like carpal tunnel on a scale we can scarcely imagine," he says, according to a transcript of the show. Later in the monologue, he said he met workers poisoned by the chemical hexane, used to clear iPhone screens.

But "This American Life" reported Daisey's Chinese interpreter disputed many of the artist's claims when contacted by Rob Schmitz, a China correspondent for the public radio show "Marketplace." Among them, the translator said guards outside the factory weren't armed, Daisey never met workers from a secret union and he never visited factory dorm rooms.

Daisey told Glass he didn't meet any poisoned workers and guessed at the ages of some he threaten to set back the efforts to met. He also said some details he used were things he read about happening elsewhere.

"I'm not going to say that I didn't take a few shortcuts in my passion to be heard," he told Glass. "But I stand behind the work. My mistake, the mistake that I truly regret is that I had it on your show as journalism, and it's not journalism. It's theater."

In the edited monologue, Eustis said Daisey acknowledges "that his translator, Cathy, does not remember things which he does remember."

Apple's popularity among consumers and investors alike has only grown while Daisev has been railing against the company. Since Daisey's oneman show hit the stage in the summer of 2010, Apple has sold more than 74 million iPhones, more than 35 million iPads and more than 29 million iPods.

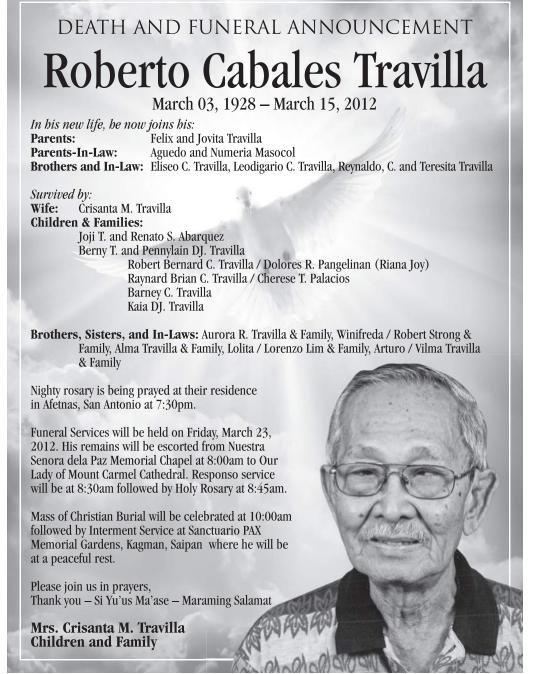
Propelled by the surging sales of Apple's devices, the company stock price has climbed nearly 70 percent to create an additional \$220 billion in shareholder wealth. Apple now reigns as the world's richest company, with nearly \$100 billion in cash and a market value of \$546 billion.

Daisey's embellishments improve the working conditions in China and other countries where many trendy gadgets are made, said veteran technology analyst Rob Enderle.

He fears Daisey's tainted credibility will embolden more U.S. companies to turn a blind eve to how the assembly-line workers are being treated in the overseas factories run by their contractors. "It will make it more difficult to correct these labor injustices in China," Enderle said. "Daisey tried to make this out to be an Apple problem, but it really wasn't. It's a China problem."

Eustis hopes audiences will not let the controversy distract them for Daisey's main points. "The subject matter of this piece—the way we allow working people who make our objects elsewhere in the world to be treated—is incredibly important, and it is vital that we not be distracted from that subject by this controversy."

Daisey—a performer in the vein of Spalding Gray and John Leguizamo—has performed the monologue for more than 50,000 people from Seattle to Washington, D.C. He was expected to take the show on tour after its run at The Public Theater.



Horse racing drama 'Luck' proved too real for HBO

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Horse racing has long withstood the deaths of its skittish, injury-prone thoroughbreds. Hollywood proved it lacks the stomach for it.

HBO abruptly cancelled its racetrack drama series "Luck" this past week after three horses used in the production were injured and euthanized during 10 months of filming in the last two years.

The abrupt fall of "Luck," which will end its single-season run on March 25, reveals the chasm between the racing and entertainment industries.

At the track, a horse puts its life on the line so gamblers can stake \$2 or more to win, place or show, with the industry and fans accepting the danger to animals and jockeys as a harsh part of the bargain.

With movies and TV, which offer the on-screen vow that "no animals were harmed" in the making of make-believe, consumers have scant tolerance for harm to any creature great or small.

"More people are pet owners than ever before. More people have access to information about animals ... and care more about them," said Karen Rosas, senior vice president of the American Humane Association's TV and film unit that monitors animal safety for more than 2,000 productions annually.

During the past five years, the association encountered only one horse death outside of "Luck," on the 2007 movie "3:10 to Yuma," Rosas said. Losing three horses on a single project was "unprecedented,"



In this image provided by HBO, horses race in a scene from the HBO original series "Luck." The sport of horse racing is determined to endure the inevitable deaths of its injury-prone animals.

she added

The racing world stands in sharp contrast in both the measure of loss and reaction to it.

Two horses died in Britain's Grand National steeplechase meet last year, and four the year before, but the April event will proceed as it has since the 1830s. The 2008 Kentucky Derby euthanasia of a captivating filly, Eight Belles, clouded but didn't derail the event that marks its 137th running in May.

Last week, five horses died in the first two days of the U.K.'s Cheltenham Festival steeplechase. Outrage erupted, as it had after previous multiple deaths in the prestigious meet, but it's yet to be scuttled.

In U.S. racing, there's approximately one horse fatality per 500 starts, according to Dr. Rick Arthur, medical director of the California Horse Racing Board. He cited the Equine Industry Database posted online by The Jockey Club, which supports thoroughbred breeding and racing.

"Luck" filmed some 2,500 racing sequences, most a few slow, staged furlongs rather

than all-out contests, Arthur said, citing estimated figures from HBO.

Two thoroughbreds were put down after suffering fractures while running. The third was euthanized for a head injury suffered when the horse slipped and toppled backward, an accident experts said isn't uncommon for the fragile, high-strung animals that weigh about 1,200 pounds.

The losses provoked public dismay, along with pro and con debate about racing itself.

"I am usually an admirer of

both HBO and (series creator) David Milch, but from the sounds of it, this is a tragedy that should have been avoided. Animals are not props," actor Sean Vincent Biggins of Los Angeles posted Friday on his Facebook page.

Thoroughbred experts and those in racing say their acceptance of mortality in racing stems from an understanding of the animals powering the sport.

"You don't force a racehorse to race. They love running," said Dr. Larry Bramlage of Lexington, Ky., a nationally prominent equine veterinarian with 37 years' experience. "If you came to where I am right now, with all the yearlings in the field, you'd see them out there trying to prove who runs the best."

Richard Mandella—a Hall of Fame trainer at Santa Anita Park, the sprawling, historic track in the Los Angeles suburb of Arcadia where "Luck" was filmed—said "a love affair" exists between the people and horses in racing.

But even hard work and "extreme efforts" can't protect the animals, he said.

"As far as accidents happening ... I don't care if they're in a prairie or anywhere, that can happen," Mandella said. "They play rough and they're competitive."

What happened to the HBO show, he suggested, could have been a run of sad misfortune.

"Luck" was the kind of highprofile project that the premium TV channel bases its reputation on, with industry heavyweights in front of and behind the camera.

The drama about the underbelly of racing starred Dustin Hoffman, in his first TV series, as a crime boss scheming to bring casino gambling to a track. Nick Nolte, Joan Allen, Michael Gambon and Dennis Farina were among other highprofile actors in the show.

Series creator and producer Milch has had success in broadcast TV with "NYPD Blue" and on HBO with "Deadwood." Michael Mann, the big-screen director whose credits include "Heat" and "Public Enemies," paired with Milch as producer and directed the pilot.

Titanic museums to mark anniversary of sinking

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Titanic museums in the Smoky Mountains and Branson, Mo., have told the ship's story to 7 million visitors in the past six years. Now the attractions are marking the Titanic centennial by sponsoring a Coast Guard cutter to take 1.5 million rose petals to the North Atlantic site where the ship sank 100 years ago.

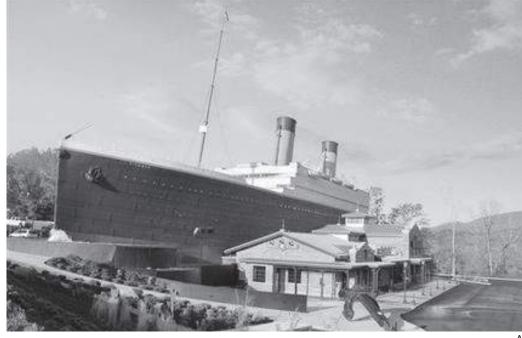
The museums also will have special ceremonies April 14 in Tennessee and Missouri to commemorate the anniversary.

The flowers will be dropped at the location to memorialize the victims on the luxury liner, which sank April 15, 1912, after hitting an iceberg. More than 1,500 of the 2,200 on board died.

The cutter will leave Boston April 10 and join several commercial cruises in the area for the occasion. The museumsponsored trip is not open to the public.

"It's a memorial, and we're just going to do the ceremony," said Rick Laney, a spokesman for the museums, who'll be on board. "We'll have a priest, pastor and rabbi along."

Laney, of Knoxville, is not worried about bad weather or



This undated image provided by Titanic Museum Attractions shows the exterior of a half-scale replica of the Titanic cruise ship in Pigeon Forge, Tenn.

danger that befell the Titanic a century ago.

"I'll be in the hands of the Coast Guard," he said. "The capable hands of guys out there all the time."

The museums, in Pigeon Forge, Tenn., and Missouri's country music-oriented resort town of Branson, are to conclude activities April 14 with a

symbolic re-enactment of the launching of Titanic's distress flares and the lighting of a memorial flame at the bow of the ship.

John Joslyn, co-owner of both museums, said the ceremonies "will pay tribute to the courage of the rescuers and survivors, respect the sacrifice so many made so that others might live, and honor the memory of all those aboard."

Joslyn was co-leader of the first private expedition to visit the ship's resting place on the ocean floor. Other expeditions also have been conducted, including one by the director of the "Titanic" movie. James Cameron.

In 1987, Joslyn and a team spent 44 days at sea. The expe-

dition dived to the site 32 times, getting hundreds of hours of ghost-like images used in the TV special "Return to Titanic...Live!"

Up to 20 descendants of those who were aboard the Titanic's ill-fated voyage are scheduled to attend ceremonies at the museums, Laney said. The Titanic Historical Society is helping coordinate the activities.

The museums, half-scale replicas of the giant ship, are home to hundreds of artifacts from survivors of the disaster and from the ocean liner. The attractions, with eerie symbolism, strive to show visitors how

it felt to be part of the tragedy: They can learn how to send an SOS signal; dip their hands into 28-degree water simulating the water the night the ship sank; and feel the chill of an iceberg. Each guest gets a boarding pass of an actual Titanic passenger or crew member. At the end of the tour, they learn the fate of the passenger.

Visitors can walk hallways, parlors, cabins and a grand stair-case while surrounded by the artifacts and exhibits.

The two museums are billed as exhibiting one of the largest permanent collections of Titanic artifacts and memorabilia.

Comedian Gallagher still in medically induced coma

LEWISVILLE, Texas (AP)—Doctors have decided to wait before bringing the comedian Gallagher out of the medically induced coma he was put in after his heart attack last week in Texas.

Doctors had planned to wake the 65-year-old comedian on Saturday. But his promotional manager, Christine Scherrer, says he was trying to wake on his own. Doctors are keeping him sedated because

they want to wake him slowly. She says they may try Sunday.

Scherrer says the comedian had two stents replaced after collapsing Wednesday before a performance at a bar in Lewisville, a Dallas suburb.

He had a minor heart attack last March after collapsing while performing in Minnesota. His full name is Leo Anthony Gallagher, and he's best known for smashing watermelons with a sledgehammer.

Clooney arrested in protest at Sudanese Embassy

WASHINGTON George Clooney and his father were arrested Friday during a protest outside the Sudanese Embassy, and the actor said he has asked President Barack

(AP)— Obama to engage China on stopping a humanitarian crisis in northern Africa.

> The protesters accuse Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir of provoking a humanitarian



Actor George Clooney, and his father Nick Clooney, take part in a pro-

crisis and blocking food and aid from entering the Nuba Mountains in the county's border region with South Sudan.

Clooney, his father, Nick Clooney, and others were arrested after being warned three times not to cross a police line outside the embassy. Those taken into custody included NAACP President Ben Jealous, Martin Luther King III, and actor and comedian Dick Gregory.

Several members of Congress also were arrested, including Massachusetts Reps. James McGovern and John Olver, Texas Rep. Al Green and Rep. Jim Moran of Virginia. They were handcuffed and placed into a U.S. Secret Service van.

Clooney was released several hours later after paying a ney met this week with Obama, testified in the Senate and attended a state dinner for British Prime Minister David Cameron.

Clooney told The Associated Press before he was arrested that he can only hope to draw attention to the crisis in Sudan but that he doesn't know if any progress has been made. He said he was impressed, though, with Obama's engagement on the issue.

"It's amazing to sit down with a world leader who knows all of the intricacies of what's going on in Sudan," he said.

The actor said he asked Obama to involve China more in pushing for a solution in Sudan. A YouTube video Clooney recently posted online from his trip to Sudan appears to show a Chinesemade missile being used against

\$100 fine. The arrests came after Cloothe Nuba community. test at the Sudan Embassy in Washington, Friday, March 16, 2012.

Eminem drops in on 50 Cent's 'Get Rich' SXSW show

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—The rumors were true: Eminem joined 50 Cent to recreate "Get Rich or Die Tryin" Friday night at South By Southwest.

It was a throwback to the heyday of gangster rap at the music conference and festival as 50 Cent hit the stage at the Shady Records showcase in a camouflage bullet-proof vest and a Yankees cap as clouds of chronic floated through the air. With a seven-piece band and MC Tony Yayo at this side, he laid down the 16 game-changing tracks from "Get Rich," performing the entire album live for the first time.

"It's been a minute," he told the crowd of about 2,000 at the Austin Music Hall and an audience watching via Fuse and YouTube. "It's been 10 years. That album sold 13 million copies. Damn.'

The album came out in February 2003, with Eminem and Dr. Dre serving as executive producers and featured rappers.

While Dr. Dre didn't show in Austin, Eminem—the focus of rumors all week—joined 50 on "Patiently Waiting" and a short encore that almost didn't come off because of lackluster crowd reaction, a commonplace occurrence at SXSW.

"I guess it's not what have I done, but what have I done for you lately, is that right?" a tweaked 50 Cent said when he returned to the stage. But perhaps showing he's mellowed in the decade since he filled the air with the "pop pop pop" of songs like "In Da Club" and "Many Men (Wish Death)," he did the encore anyway.

Dre wasn't the only prominent player missing from the session. Governor replaced the late Nate Dogg, who passed away a year ago this week, on "21 Questions."

Fit and on his game, 50 seemed in high spirits throughout the show and marveled at how, against the odds, he did get rich and didn't die tryin'.

Rappers Eminem, left, 50 Cent, center, and Dr. Dre pose for photographers after arriving at the Roseland Ballroom for a concert "The Shady National Convention," in this Oct. 28, 2004 file photo taken in

"The money came so fast, I 36-year-old said. "I was trying

couldn't (expletive) it up," the everything I could think of."

THE SHADY

Oprah Winfrey's OWN network axes 'The Rosie Show'

NEW YORK (AP)—Oprah Winfrey's OWN network is pulling the curtain on "The Rosie Show" after five months on the air.

The show premiered in October to about 500,000 viewers but lost about half that audience within days of its debut.

Recently, it changed the format from taping before a studio audience to a one-onone interview setting with celebrities such as Kathy Griffin, Chelsea Handler and former Illinois first lady Patti Blagojevich.

In a statement released by OWN. Winfrey thanked O'Donnell. She called O'Donnell "an incredible partner" who worked to put on the best show "every single day."

O'Donnell also was quoted as saying she loved working with



In this April 13, 2008 file photo, comedian Rosie O'Donnell arrives at Comedy Central's "Night of Too Many Stars" special, benefiting autism education at The Beacon Theatre in New York.

Winfrey and in Chicago and "wished" the show had better ratings.

The final episode will air March 30.



Wayne has been told to cut his

The Times-Picayune (http:// bit.ly/yxftea) reports the rapper was cited for high grass and weeds at his 10,000-squarefoot mansion in a gated subdivision in Kenner, La., a suburb of New Orleans.

The Code Enforcement Department issued the ticket to Dwayne Carter, the New Orleans-born singer's given name,

KENNER, La. (AP)—Lil March 2, according to a list released by the city.

The home is on sale for \$1.7 million. Listed as a "celebrity" mansion, the house has five bedrooms, five bathrooms, two half baths and a "beautiful, spacious open floor plan."

Among the house's amenities are a four-car garage, a theater and movie room, an entertainment bar, a pool house. The master suite has a fireplace with his and her baths and a steam



In this March 15, 2012 image, Lil Wayne performs during the SXSW Music Festival in Austin, Texas.

Playwright celebrated in public gets scant applause at home

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I am an playwright. amateur Our local theater sponsors an annual playwriting contest. The prize isn't monetary, but something far more important to an author-a full-scale production of the play.

I have won this prize four times -- more than any other writer in the history of the contest.
But is my family impressed? Not at all! My wife told me she thinks I



write everything the same way and have simply repeated myself four times. Her put-downs are deeply hurtful.

I am up in years. It's unlikely I will ever again win this prize. So how do I respond to such indifference? What do you do when you feel you have accomplished something important and the response is, "So, what else is new?"

LOOKING FOR VALIDATION IN FLORIDA

DEAR LOOKING FOR VALIDATION: My hat's off to you. That you have won this prize more than any other writer in the history of the contest is a notable achievement, and one that's not likely to be matched for a long time—if ever. Attend the production, take your well-earned bow in the spotlight, and accept that the less you look to your wife for validation, the happier your life will be.

DEAR ABBY: About a year ago, my fiancee, "Jayne," reconnected with her childhood friend through Facebook.

"Christine" is gay, unattached and very attractive. She has a great personality, and everyone who meets her seems to be attracted to her. Jayne and Christine have had overnighters together. I have asked my fiancee if Christine has ever made advances toward her and she said no. I want to believe her, but part of me is wary.

They are now planning to go on a trip for a few days to an island. Jayne says she loves me and that I have nothing to be jealous about. Am I being naive? What should I do?

LEFT BEHIND IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR LEFT BEHIND: Believe it or not, gay people are capable of platonic friendships with members of the same sex, just as straight people can have platonic relationships with people of the opposite sex. The bottom line question is, do you trust your fiancee? If the answer is you're not sure, then you should rethink the engagement.

DEAR ABBY: My brother has systematically taken over my parents' lives for the past 20 years. He uses his depression and agoraphobia as an excuse not to lead his own life. He lives on government disability payments, and the majority of his support comes from my parents, whom he lives with and mooches off of. He doesn't help them around the house or contribute in any way. He refuses to get treatment for his disorders.

How can I help my parents finally be free of him? They are fast approaching 70 years old. Talking to my brother is useless, as he becomes extremely hostile and threatens to kill himself. My parents deserve some rest at their age.

ANONYMOUS IN NEW YORK

DEAR ANONYMOUS: At the rate they're going, your parents may not get the rest they deserve until they're in the great beyond. Unless they are willing to take a stand and make living with them conditional upon your brother getting counseling and medication for his mental illness, nothing will change.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Ange-

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in

SAIPAN TRIBUNE **22** MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2012

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

I WISH I WAS

I'D HEAR THE WIND BLOWING THE RAIN AGAINST THE WINDOW PANES AND I'D PULL THE BLANKETS UP, GET ALL TOASTY AND COZY, AND FALL BACK ASLEEP



INSTEAU, I'M

COLD AND WET



Garfield®







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additive

alterna-

24 Lotion

25 401(k)

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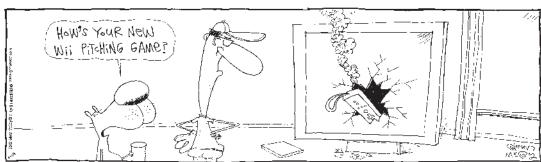


By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

Bv Jim Davis



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer 10 Operatio **ACROSS** 40 Greek 59 Society 1 Smartconsosolo new-

11 Depend phone nants comer download 41 Start (on) 4 Studies **DOWN** 16 Upper from hard scratch 1 Cleosurface **20** Thy 9 Golf 43 Darepatra's 21 Isinglass standard devil's slayer 12 Witness cord 2 Pod 22 Caspian 13 Serf 45 Zigzag dweller feeder 14 Exist on the Corral. **23** Land-15 It goes slopes 4 Housescapes 27 Intent 47 Lingerie hold without saying item tasks 29 Adhesive 48 Overactor 5 TV **17** Zero 30 Other-18 Acapulco 49 Praiseful controls wise gold speech 6 "The 32 Writer 19 "Help!" 54 Eggs Greatest' Silver-21 Kermit or

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outflow

26 Red or Black Solution time: 24 mins. 28 Power glitch 31 Supermarket stack 33 Knight's address 35 Streamlet 36 Island greeting 38 Unruly

STUMPED?

or answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch tone/rotary phones. (18- only.) A King

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jake Weber, 48; Bruce Willis, 57; Glenn Close, 65; Ursula Andress, 76.

Happy Birthday: Don't backtrack this year unless you have really checked out the potential consequences. It's important to know what you are up against if you don't want to face setbacks. Work and play with people who have something to offer you in return. Strive for equality and you will find the happiness you deserve. Your numbers are 3, 7, 13, 22, 26, 37, 49.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Embrace change and let your emotions guide you. Understanding what you need most will enable you to make choices that will influence your future and bring you greater security. Don't be afraid to use a little force to get your way. OOOO

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stick to what you know and do best. You'll learn a difficult lesson if you let someone take advantage of you. Don't tempt fate when it comes to traveling or following rules and regulations. Open your heart, not your wallet. ••

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't let others slow you down. Size up your situation and push forward with your plans. The influence you have will win points and lead to advancement. A favor granted will make a huge difference to the way you progress. �����

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't let a last-minute change upset your world or your future. Be creative and you will come up with a plan that will help you stay on course. You can learn a lot if you observe how others handle responsibility.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll be intuitive regarding money and health matters. Follow your gut feeling and do the responsible thing when it comes to home and family. Sticking to a budget and keeping things simple and moderate will pay off in the end.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put more emphasis on how you treat others and how you want to be treated in return. Networking will bring good results, and a partnership with someone special will help you stabilize your life and your future. Love is highlighted. OOO

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Find ways to compromise. Avoid overindulgence. Let your intuition guide you and you will make choices that bring greater security. An older friend or relative will offer you something you cannot refuse. Old goals can now be achieved. OOOOO

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Home is where the heart is, and with a little finagling you can make alterations that will add to your comfort and security. Love is on the rise, and making special plans geared toward a better partnership will pay off. 2000

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't guess. It's crucial to be absolutely sure before you make a move. Rely on experience and call in favors from reliable people. Domestic changes will give you a new lease on life. OOOO

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take your time. Jumping to conclusions will lead to a mishap that can affect your reputation. Concentrate on building your equity and putting more time and effort into your surroundings and relationships. Love is in the stars.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Someone will let you down if you are too trusting. Don't share your secrets or take on too much. Keep things simple and steer clear of anyone who is overindulgent physically or financially. Make choices for the right reason, not for someone else. 🛇 😂

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Dream a little dream and make it a reality. Be creative and follow a path that allows you to be unique and original. Someone you consider to be gifted will want to contribute to your goals. A partnership will pay off. OOO

Birthday Baby: You have pizzazz, charm and good work ethics. You are adaptable and progressive.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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		2	6		7	5		

Difficulty Level *

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

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Dill - c	ly lar-	Different Level ****								

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Wonderword By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward, Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftower letters

P D T E I B R I B E N T A O G ROLRSPRITERPSNI HAIQEEDUVAENISN INGALEPDIN INTESKRONOACE F U M N B E O U C U E E L C R NEAODTRUTDGDH ACATRVWEOEBPIET YOIACCAPVRAHL ROCNLWVRTESCA I H A E G D I Y (S) H A E E RKADVJOKESO(K) GLW ESFEASTEERHT(Î) II ERRSKCIRTREWO(P) N NGNILLIHSILVERK

9.2012 Universal Louis - www.worlderword.com - Join Js on Tacebook Bribe, Buckles, Cane, Captured, Chase, Clever, Coat, Coins, Crocks, Dance, Dirty, Dwarf, Emerald, Fairy, Feast, Flute, Ginger, Goat, Green, Hide, Hunting, Irish, Jokes, Legend, Male, Night, Pipe, Pointed Ears, Pot of Gold, Power, Rainbow, Reveal, Running, Seven, Shilling, Shoe, Short, Silver, Skip, Sprite, Three, Trap, Treasure, Tricks, Vanish, Wealth, Wink, Wish

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Seriously looking for used cars Year 2003 & up 4 cylinder. Good condition. We pay cash! Call 287-7676

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2 Bedroom Apartment for Rent. For \$200.00/month. Koblerville, please call 288-0728

Sandy Beach Homes 3BR, 2BTH beachfront Chalan Kanoa. Security cams, back-up power/water, washer/dryer in unit, AC, solar water heater. Income eligibility req. apply. \$695/mo 235-7263. www. sandybeachhomes.net

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL 🕮

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

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(5) WAITRESS

OUALIFICATIONS:

A) At least 21-25 years old with

pleasing personality.

B) Has at least 2-3 years experience

C) Full Time with flexible working

E) Preferably can speak Japanese

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Adoption of ERVIN LEE JOHN SATUR WABOL and ENNIP MARIO LUKAS WABOL By Lydia Lukas Wabo FCD AD Civil Action No. 12-0135- FCD

NOTICE OF HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED ADOPTION OF

ERVIN LEE JOHN SATUR WABOL and ENNIF MARIO LUKAS WABOL

LEE JOHN SATUR WABOL and ENIP MARIO LUKAS WABOL by Lydia L. Wabol will be Courtroom 205A, on April 16, 2012, at

October 6, 1997 in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Ennip Mario Lukas Wabol was born on March 26, 2000 in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marian Islands. The petition for the adoption of Ervin Lee John Satur Wabol and Ennin Mario Lukas Wabol is sealed. However, a copy of the petition will be provided to any person that requests a copy before the date of the hearing and is able to demonstrate that they are or may be an interested person to Ervin Lee John Satur Wabol and Ennip Mario Lukas Wabol adoption, as determined by CNMI law. If you believe that you are an interested person, a copy of the petition may be obtained by contacting the Law Offices of Rexford C. Kosack, P.O. Box 500410, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone (670 322-8800; Fax (670) 322-7800; E-mail

Failure of interested persons to appear at the hearing and provide their objections will result in them forever waiving any rights that they may have to contest this

/s/REXFORD C. KOSACK

Please take notice that the hearing regarding the proposed adoption of ERVIN

Ervin Lee John Satur Wabol was born on rex.kosack@kosacklaw.com

Dated this 16th day of March, 2012.

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Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

 Allads place d Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Syracuse beats K-State, enters Sweet 16



PITTSBURGH (AP)—Scoop Jardine had 16 points and eight assists to lead

top-seeded Syracuse to a 75-59 victory over eighth-seeded Kansas State on Saturday in the third round of the East Regional.

James Southerland added 15 points for the Orange (33-2), who didn't wait until the final minutes to seal the win as they did in the second round against 16th-seeded North Carolina-Asheville.

Syracuse plays Wisconsin in Boston on Thursday night in the regional semifinals.

Rodney McGruder had 15 points for the Wildcats (22-11), who struggled from the field against Syracuse's 2-3 zone defense.

Neither team had its leading rebounder. Syracuse's 7-foot Fab Melo, the Big East Defensive Player of the Year, was declared ineligible by the school for the rest of the tournament earlier in the week. About 20 minutes before the start of this game, Kansas State announced that Jamar Samuels would be held out over an eligibility issue.

Ohio State 73, Gonzaga 66

In Pittsburgh, Jared Sullinger scored 18 points, including two big baskets in the final 3 minutes to lead Ohio State past Gonzaga and into the round of 16 for the third straight year.

DeShaun Thomas also scored 18 for the Buckeyes (29-7), while Aaron Craft added 17 points and 10 assists. Ohio State will play Florida State or Cincinnati in the East Regional semifinals Thursday in Boston.

Gary Bell Jr. led Gonzaga (26-7) with 18 points, but the Bulldogs were unable to become the third team to knock off a No. 2 seed in less than 24

Gonzaga erased a 10-point deficit to tie it at 61 on a 3-pointer by Elias Harris with 4:05 remaining, but Sullinger knocked down two pretty hook shots late while the Bulldogs went cold.

Wisconsin 60. Vanderbilt 57

In New Mexico, Ryan Evans scored 11 points and grabbed a crucial rebound in the closing seconds.

John Jenkins took a 3-pointer that would have given the Commodores the lead, but it bounced high off the rim and Evans pulled down the rebound and was fouled with 2.1 seconds left.

He made the first free throw to make it a three-point game. After a Vanderbilt timeout, he missed the second and the Commodores called time with 1.3 seconds remaining.

Jared Berggren contested the inbounds pass and got his right hand on Lance Goulbourne's overhand heave and started cel-



Syracuse's James Southerland, right, blocks a shot by Kansas State's Jordan Henriquez (21) as he shoots in front of Rakeem Christmas in the second half of an NCAA tournament third-round college basketball game on Saturday, March 17, 2012 in Pittsburgh. Syracuse won, 75-59

the round of 16 under coach Bo Ryan as the horn sounded.

Kentucky 87, **Iowa State 71**

In Louisville, Freshman Marquis Teague scored a career-high 24 points and top-seeded Kentucky put together another complete performance with a dominating second-half run the third round of the NCAA tournament.

Freshman Anthony Davis had 15 points and 12 rebounds, senior Darius Miller added 19 points and Doron Lamb finished with 16. The Wildcats (34-2) move on to South Regional semifinals in Atlanta and will face fourth-seeded Indiana

Royce White scored 23 points and had nine rebounds before **Indiana 63, VCU 61** fouling out with 4:32 left for Iowa State (23-11), which beat defending national champion Connecticut on Thursday night. But the Cyclones couldn't contend with Kentucky's overwhelming offense and smothering defense.

Baylor 80, Colorado 65 In New Mexico, Brady Hes-

ebrating Wisconsin's fifth trip to lip made nine 3-pointers and finished with 27 points to lead Baylor to the victory in the South Regional.

> Heslip, a transfer from Boston College who grew up in Canada, helped break open a tight game with a pair of 3-pointers that were part of a 14-0 run and gave the third-seeded Bears (29-7) a 75-60 lead.

> Baylor made the regional finals for the second time in three years under coach Scott Drew. The Bears will play the winner of Sunday's game between Xavier and Lehigh.

> Pierre Jackson had 13 points and 10 assists for Baylor.

> Freshman Askia Booker had 15 points for 11th-seeded Colorado (24-12).

In Portland, Indiana's Will Sheehey made a 15-footer from the baseline with 12.7 seconds left after a shot was blocked right

Rob Brandenberg got a great look at a potential winning 3-pointer but it rimmed off at the buzzer, ending the Rams' bid for another surprising March run.

Indiana advanced to the

round of 16 for the first time in a decade and just four years after Tom Crean inherited a decimated program. The Hoosiers did it by rallying from down 59-53 with 6 minutes remaining, including Victor Oladipo's driving three-point play with 46.5 seconds left that tied it at 61.

Christian Watford and Cody Zeller had 16 points apiece for Indiana (27-8). Sheehey finished with eight points; his game-winner was his only basket of the second half.

Bradford Burgess scored 12 of his 15 points in the first half for VCU (29-7).

Marquette 62. **Murray States 53**

In Louisville, Jae Crowder scored 12 of his 17 points in the second half, and Marquette used a late run to overcome Murray State.

Trailing 46-41 with 7:43 to play, Marquette went on a 14-2 run. While Crowder and Davante Gardner took care of the offense, scoring all but two points during the spurt, the Golden Eagles used their size and strength to wear down the pesky Racers.

Murray State, (31-2) which is still looking to get out of the first weekend of the NCAA tournament. It's the second time in three years Murray State has fallen short of the regional semifinals.

Marquette (27-7) plays the winner of Norfolk State-Florida next Thursday in Phoenix.

Louisville 59, **New Mexico 56**

In Portland, Russ Smith had 17 points as Louisville advanced to the regional semifinals for the first time since 2009.

Kyle Kuric added 10 points for the Big East tournament never been to the round of 16.

Isaiah Canaan scored 16 for champions, who lost their first game of the NCAA tournament the past two seasons.

> Trailing 53-46, New Mexico's Drew Gordon hit a pair of free throws, and Demetrius Walker made a 3-pointer to pull to within 53-51 with 1:36 left. Smith made a pair of free throws for fourth-seeded Louisville (28-9), but Gordon answered with a tip-in.

Gorgui Dieng dunked with 32.3 seconds left and Peyton Siva added free throws to make it 59-53. Gordon dropped a 3-pointer with 2.9 seconds left, but it was too late for the fifth seeded Lobos (28-7), who have

Titans GM: Manning works out for team on Saturday



(AP)—Peyton Manning worked out for Tennessee

on Saturday in Knoxville, Titans general manager Ruston Webster said.

The GM said he thought Manning "looked comfortable throwing the ball and we had a good visit."

"This is another important step in the process," Webster said. Manning spent eight hours meeting with Tennessee executives on Wednesday.

Webster was joined at Saturday's workout by Titans head coach Mike Munchak, chief operating officer Mike Reinfeldt, offensive coordinator Chris Palmer, quarterbacks coach Dowell Loggains and strength coach Steve Watterson, a person familiar with the session told The Associated Press. The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the team has not released details of the workout.

Saturday was Manning's third workout for teams this week.

On Friday, the four-time NFL MVP worked out at Duke for Denver. Tuesday night he worked out at the Blue Devils' facilities for San Francisco. Manning has been rehabbing in North Carolina following a string of neck surgeries.

And the quarterback is get-

ting good reviews. After throwing for Hall of Fame QB turned Broncos executive John Elway and Denver coach John Fox in a workout that lasted a little under two hours. When it was over, Elway seemed convinced that Manning is still Manning

"We enjoyed visiting with Peyton today in N.C.," Elway wrote on his Twitter account. "He threw the ball great and looked very comfortable out there."

A few minutes later, Elway posted: "Watching him throw today was the next step in this important process for our team and Peyton. It was a produc-

KNOXVILLE tive visit and went well."

Manning, who turns 36 on March 24, missed the 2011 season with the neck injury, which led to him being released by Indianapolis.

Duke football coach David Cutcliffe said Manning looks

Cutcliffe -Manning's offensive coordinator at the University of Tennessee - said Saturday morning that Manning has been throwing at "game pace."

After Duke's scrimmage, Cutcliffe said the quickness of Manning's release has impressed him.

me," Cutcliffe said. Manning also continues to

"He never ceases to amaze

amaze NFL types.

Titans owner Bud Adams declared earlier this month he wanted the quarterback and felt Manning could be the missing piece to a championship team.

Adams has said he thought Manning would make a quick decision, and the quarterback seems to want it over quickly. He worked out Saturday even though it was his anniversary: Manning married his wife, Ashley, on St. Patrick's Day in 2001 in Memphis.

Whether San Francisco executives and coaches also felt Manning looked good during their workout, they aren't saying. But they also have shown interest in the quarterback who led Indianapolis to a Super Bowl victory in 2007. A person familiar with the situation said Manning worked out for 49ers' coach Jim Harbaugh on Tuesday night at Duke. ESPN first reported on the session. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because no announcement has been made about the 49ers' workout.

San Francisco CEO Jed York also may want to make his own pitch along with general manager Trent Baalke, trying to sway Manning to sign with the 49ers.

Lin lifts Knicks to victory over Pacers

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—Jeremy Lin scored 19 points to help the New York Knicks defeat the Indiana Pacers 102-88 on Saturday night and improve to 3-0 under in-

terim coach Mike Woodson.

Lin also had seven rebounds and six assists. Carmelo Anthony and Amar'e Stoudemire each scored 16 points and J.R. Smith added 11 for the Knicks, who won on the road for just

the eighth time this season. The Knicks have won all three games by an average of 23.7 points since Woodson took over for Mike D'Antoni. New York defeated the Pacers 115-100 on Friday night in New York.

Roy Hibbert had 24 points and 12 rebounds, Paul George scored 18 points and Darren Collison added 15 points for Indiana, which made just 4 of 15 shots in the fourth quarter.

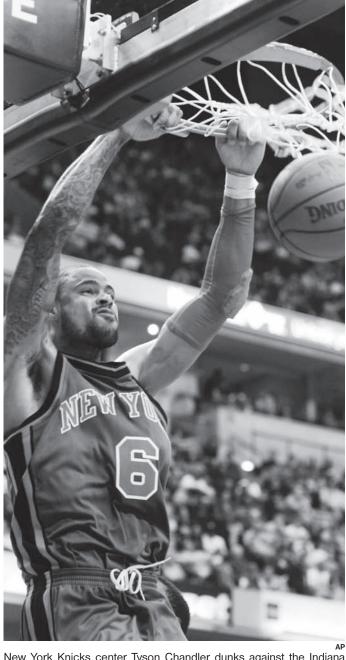
Mavericks 106, Spurs 99

In Dallas, Dirk Nowitzki scored 27 points, responding time after time despite being pushed and swatted at to lead Dallas over San Antonio.

Jason Terry added 17 points and Rodrigue Beaubois 16 for the Mavericks, who won their third consecutive game since a 2-7 stretch over 12 days.

After home wins over Washington and Charlotte, the NBA's two worst teams, beating the Spurs was much more impressive, even if the Southwest Division leaders were playing the second consecutive night. Dallas never trailed and the only tie was at 2-all.

With the shot clock running down late in the third quarter, Nowitzki got the ball with Manu Ginobili right on top of him. The Mavericks' perennial All-Star made a 20-foot jumper for a 10-point lead and let out a scream, as much exhila-



New York Knicks center Tyson Chandler dunks against the Indiana Pacers in an NBA basketball game in Indianapolis, Saturday, March 17, 2012. New York won, 102-88.

he thought he was also fouled.

Bulls 89, Sixers 80

In Chicago, C.J. Watson scored 20 points and Joakim Noah added 13 points and 11 rebounds to lead Chicago over Philadelphia.

The Bulls overcame an early 14-point deficit without Derrick Rose, who missed his third straight game with

ration as letting officials know a strained groin. Even with the reigning MVP missing 13 games this season, the Bulls still have the best record in the NBA at 37-10. The Bulls are 9-4 without Rose.

> Jrue Holiday led the 76ers with 30 points, who dropped its third straight overall and have lost seven of nine on the road. Holiday got little help as Andre Iguodala was held to seven

points and Elton Brand to seven.

Nuggets 98, Celtics 91

In Denver, Danilo Gallinari scored 20 points and Kenneth Faried added 18 points and a career-high 16 rebounds leading Denver past Boston.

It was the sixth double-double in the past 13 games for Faried. Arron Afflalo added 15 points for Denver, which has beaten the Celtics seven of the past eight times in Denver.

Paul Pierce and Kevin Garnett had 22 points each for Boston. Rajon Rondo had 12 points and 16 assists.

The Celtics are 2-3 on their eight-game road trip. They were coming off a 120-95 loss at Sacramento.

Jazz 99, Warriors 92, OT

In Salt Lake City, Derrick Favors, starting for Al Jefferson, had career highs with 23 points and 17 rebounds to help Utah edge Golden State in overtime.

Jefferson, Utah's leading scorer and rebounder, was attending his grandmother's funeral in Mississippi.

Favors scored four of the first six points in overtime and the Jazz earned their sixth straight home win, and second straight in overtime.

Favors, whose previous scoring high was 20 points before he came to Utah from New Jersey in the trade for Deron Williams last season, made a three-point play and a block in the closing seconds of regulation to send the game to overtime.

Nate Robinson scored 19 points, David Lee had 18 and Klay Thompson added 17 points for the Warriors.

Clippers 95, Rockets 91

In Los Angeles, Chris Paul scored 12 of his 23 points in the final 2:42, including a goahead layup with 24.6 seconds left, leading Los Angeles over Houston.

Hornets 102, Nets 94 In New Jersey, Chris Kaman scored 20 points, including a key 23-foot jumper with a sec-

ond left on the shot clock and 45 seconds left in the game, giving New Orleans a win over New Jersey.

Blake Griffin had 18 points

and eight rebounds before

fouling out with 4.9 seconds

Randy Foye contributed 15

points in what could be his last

start because of the acquisition

of Nick Young on Thursday

Courtney Lee led Houston

with a season-high 25 points

despite a strained tendon in

the middle finger of his left

hand. Chase Budinger added

19 points, and Goran Dragic

had 14 assists along with his

The victory put the Clippers

within 2 1/2 games of the idle

Lakers in the race for the Pa-

cific Division lead.

remaining.

11 points.

from Washington.

With the Hornets leading 95-94, Kaman made his jumper and then Marco Belinelli sealed the win with a fall-away 3-pointer with 16.8 seconds left, also with the shot clock down to a second.

Belinelli also scored 20 points for the Hornets.

Jarrett Jack, whose 3-pointer in the final minute gave the Hornets the lead for good, added 16 points.

going into the fourth quarter, but couldn't hold it.

Deron Williams had 20 points and 12 assists for the Nets. They also got 20 points from Anthony Morrow and 16 from Gerald Green.

Gerald Wallace, making his debut with the Nets after being acquired in a trade with Portland before Thursday's deadline, scored 11 points.

Bobcats 107. Raptors 103

In North Carolina, D.J. Augustin scored 23 points and had 11 assists and Charlotte held off Toronto.

Gerald Henderson added 24 points, Corey Maggette had 21 and Tyrus Thomas had 11 or the Bobcats, who overcame a 15-point deficit in the second quarter to win for the second time in their past four games.

Charlotte, which still has the league's worst record at 7-36, went on to lead by as many as 16 points with less than 4 minutes remaining. But the Raptors rallied, pulling within 105-103 on Jerryd Bayless' 3-pointer with 11.7 seconds left.

Augustin hit two free throws with 9.9 seconds left to put the Bobcats up by four points, and DeMar DeRozan missed a long 3-point attempt with 2 seconds remaining.

Bayless finished with 29 points, DeRozan added 20, Linas Kleiza 13 and Andrea Barg-The Nets held an 82-70 lead nani 11 for the Raptors.

Jeter sensed Pettitte had desire to pitch again



TAMPA, Fla. (AP)— Derek Jeter

sensed Andy Pettitte wanted to pitch again. Three months shy of his 40th

birthday, Pettitte ended his retirement Friday after little more than a year. The left-hander signed a minor league deal with the Yankees with an invitation to spring training.

"I knew he was itching ... thinking about it, but a lot of people say that," Jeter said before Saturday's game against

The New York shortstop decided to come back after not pitching last season.

"He retired, mainly, because he wanted to spend time with his family, but maybe momma got tired of him a little bit." Jeter said with a smile. "He didn't talk about it at all last year, and then he started talking about it this year."

If Pettitte's comeback is successful and he's added to the major league roster, he would get a \$2.5 million, one-year contract.

Pettitte said during a conference call Friday his desire to work is back. He has pitched in the majors for 16 seasons, 13 with the Yankees.

"It's great," Jeter said. "He'll add to our team on the field, off the field. Andy's just a good person."

Pettitte is not expected be ready to break camp with the team when spring training ends early next month. He has been throwing off a mound.

"One thing with Andy is, he works extremely hard," Jeter said. "It's obvious that he's been working out. It's not like he's coming off the couch."

Pettitte, part of a winning championship core along with Jeter, Jorge Posada and Mariawas a little surprised Pettitte no Rivera, last played in 2010, when he went 11-3 and was an

> "I always say the same thing about guys like Jete and Posada and Mo, their performance on the field completely makes you overlook the impact they make in the clubhouse," New York third baseman Alex Rodriguez said. "The culture that we have here, guys like Andy is such a huge part of that. He did miss it and I know we missed him. We're very happy to have him back."

> Pettitte is 240-138 with the Yankees and Houston, and has gone 19-10 with a 3.83 ERA in 42 postseason starts

Goosen, Furyk tied for lead in Tampa

PALM HAR-Transitions Champyonship PALM HAR-BOR, Fla. (AP) —Retief

Goosen felt so much pain in his lower back that he decided to pull out of next week's tournament and get treatment. One day later, he found himself atop the leaderboard in the Transitions Championship.

Goosen ran off three straight birdies late in his round Saturday for a 6-under 65, giving him a share of the lead with Jim Furyk with more than just another PGA Tour victory at stake.

Sunday is Goosen's last chance to qualify for the Mas-

Furyk, coming off his worst season since he was a rookie, hit a 6-iron to 3 feet for birdie on the par-3 15th hole and had the lead to himself until a three-putt bogey up a steep slope on the 18th. He had a 66.

The two past champions at Innisbrook were at 11-under 202, with plenty of others behind them.

Goosen started the third round five shots behind Jason Dufner, who had a 70. Going into the final round, there were 26 players within five shots of the lead on a Copperhead course that allows birdies early, and demands close to perfection down the stretch.

Sang-moon Bae found that out the hard way.

Bae, a rookie from South Korea who reached the quarterfinals of the Match Play Championship until losing to Rory McIlroy, had the lead to himself for most of the back nine until Furyk caught him at the 15th.

On the next hole, Bae drove into the trees to avoid the water running down the right side of the fairway, pitched out, then flew the green and threeputted for a triple bogey. He birdied the 17th and salvaged a 68. He was one shot behind, along with Dufner.

Ernie Els, who likely would need to win to get into the Masters, had a 68 and was only three shots behind. So was Luke Donald, who can return to No. 1 in the world by winning at Innisbrook.

Padraig Harrington has been dropping shots since his course-record 61 on Thursday. He had a 72, yet still was only four behind.

The mystery, however, is Goosen.

He has a bulging disk and a degenerating disk in his lower back, which forced him to miss two majors last year. Kicking a soccer ball with his son last month caused it to flare up again, and the pain has been getting worse. What has saved the

ments in his stance to help get through the ball.

"It's not good," Goosen said. He plans to get a protein injection in his disks on Wednesday in Virginia, similar to the treatment that Vijay Singh and Fred Couples have received in Germany. Goosen's pain was so bad last year that his left leg went numb when he stooped over, and he started to put 90 percent of his weight on the right side.

He has lost length off the tee, which isn't as big of a factor at Innisbrook. He atoned for that with his putting, which has carried him two a pair of U.S. Open titles over the vears.

"The last three weeks, it's really just started getting bad again," Goosen said. "So hopefully, I'll be ready to get going again after the Masters or maybe the Masters, if I play well tomorrow."

South African this week is the warm weather, and a few adjust-

NEWCOMERS

From Page 28

shot placement, while the latter was active hustling to return short and long shots. Then in the second game, the Taga pair continued to dominate the match and moved within two points of wrapping up the finale, 19-14, before Naguit and Tupaz rallied. Naguit made a couple of smashes to spark a comeback and the

Blazers duo managed to tie the game, 19-19. However, Naguit and Tupaz failed to sustain their momentum when the former committed back-to-back errors. failing to hit the shuttlecock on both occasions.

Meanwhile, duplicating Midori and Sondheim's title win was the pair of Son Jae Ok and Kim Young Seok, who also had a straight set victory in the finals against JP Nopia and Carlo Dotimas.

The Saipan Badminton Club tandem won the opening game with a six-point margin, 21-15, and then struggled in the second game before pulling off a 21-17 triumph. Nopia and Dotimas tried to rally back in the second game to extend the match, moving within two, 17-19, but committed two costly errors to bow out of the contest. Nopia was called for the first error when he tried to go for a smash, but jumped early and failed to return the shuttlecock. Then after two exchanges, Dotimas committed the second error when his return hit the net.

Dotimas and Nopia marched into the title game after winning over Eydie Uy and Jordan Pangelinan, while Son and Kim took the second semis seat after ousting Joel Ortega and Park Sang Do.

Only the men's and women's C doubles finals were completed last Saturday, while the men's and women's A and B championship games were played last night and results were unavailable at press time.

In the women's B doubles, Cheng Saturno and Marylyn Montano claimed the first finals berth after defeating Elma Labuson and Toshiko Obata in the semifinals last Saturday night, 23-21, 23-21. Lee So Young and Heo In Seouk, Merlie Tolentino and Cristy Vllaflor, and Lucelle Lampera

and Annette Quiambao fought for the remaining finals berth last Saturday.

In the men's B doubles, Puy Macario and Chris Hilario swept Jerry Tan and Rodwealth Espana, 21-19, 21-16, to clinch the first finals seat. Macario and Hilario was set to face in the finals the tandem of Jexler Caranto and Oh Im Bog, who won over Lito Mendoza and Narlou Achas in the other semis pairing, 21-7, 21-6.

HITE

From Page 28

within three, 60-57, going into the final two minutes of play. Errol Peredo and Ron Gamboa converted one basket each in the paint off Smart Cagers' backto-back steals to threaten Hite Beer, but Tenorio eluded his defenders in the ensuing play for a layup to give his team enough cushion, 62-57.

Tenorio then went 2-for-4 from the stripe, while Mike Palacios split his charities to keep the lead and the win for Hite Beer.

The Smart Cagers made one final attempt to force the game in overtime when Errol Peredo made a basket and drew a foul in the paint, 61-64. He missed the bonus shot, grabbed the offensive rebound, and went for a game-tying triple from

the left corner, but muffed the trey. After the miss, Tenorio grabbed the rebound, was fouled in the last 0.9 of a second and made his second free throw for the insurance.

Blue Haus 85, **Sunrisers 76**

In a make-up game, Blue Haus picked up where it left off to beat pacesetter Sunrisers.

Blue Haus and the Sunris-

ers played the remaining one quarter of their rained-out match last match with the former on top, 69-53.

Bernard Aquino, who had only two points after three quarters, stepped up in the resumption of the match, scoring nine straight points in the fourth period to lift Blue Haus to a 5-2 record and hand the Sunrisers their first loss in eight games.

Junar Guiab and Brendon Tala-

nia also scored in the fourth canto for Blue Haus, while only Jawn Joyner and Preston Basa made more than one field goal for the Sunrisers in the final canto.

First Game

Hite Beer 65 – Lauron 19, Palacios 14, Lansang 9, Park 8, Tenorio 8, R. Babauata 3, Diaz 2.

Smart Cagers/Ali'i 61 – Peredo 30, Gamboa 10, De Dios 7, Inos 6, Usi 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-10, 38-25, 54-42, 65-61.

Second Game

Blue Haus 85 - Guiab 23, Esdrelon 20, Aquino 13, Talania 9, Camacho 6, Itaas 4, Tumaquip 4, Fernandez 2.

Sunrisers 76 – Joyner 32, Jos. Sablan 16, Lizama 13, Basa 7, Manibusan 4.

Scoring by quarters: 18-20, 42-29, 69-53, 85-76.

JETS

From Page 28

Guerero Kagman Lions last Tuesday, 15-5.

In the Big League, the Docomo Pacific Ol'Aces downed the IT&E Fielders last Thursday, 21-4, while the Paradise Island Animal Hospital Hustlers triumphed over the St. Michael's Medical Response Hunters, 7-2.

SENIOR LEAGUE Jets I 11, Enforcers 10

The Jets I assumed control, 3-2, in the opening frame off an error and an inside the park home run by Quinton Blas. The Enforcers' Sid Nepaial stole home after an RBI single by Matt Lisua in the bottom half.

Jets I then added a run in the third inning off a passed ball and went ahead, 6-2, in the fourth from a wild pitch and an RBI poke by Tristan Javier.

The count shifted to 8-4, after five frames when a triple and RBI base rip by Jets I's AJ Cabrera and Blas was echoed by Enforcers-duo Vince Cabrera and EJ Itibus.

With two outs in the top of the sixth inning, Jets I's AJ Cabrera cranked a two-RBI triple and scored later off a wild pitch. The Enforcers then lit a five-run fuse in the bottom frame and trailed by only two runs heading into the last inning.

Similar to the previous inning, the late rally was capitalized off a pair of leadoff

walks, however the Enforcers did the damage with a double by Lofton Edward, a triple by Lisua, and a two-RBI base smash by Itibus.

Jets I's second reliever Jordan Taitano inherited a couple base runners and finally bit down after a shaky start to the inning. He went on to hold the rival squad to just one run in the final stand.

Fielders 12, Falcons 8

The Falcons sprinkled runs in the first, third and fourth innings and pulled a three-run tear in the fifth inning to knot the game at 6-all. Frankie Lieto belted a two-RBI triple and scored off a wild pitch.

The Fielders were gifted two runs off early jitters in the first inning and mustered four in the top of the fifth off three hits. The Fielders loaded the bases with two outs for an RBI single by Ian Rogolifoi and a two-RBI double by Jared Lizama. Rogolifoi scored off an error.

Then the Fielders jumped all over the Falcons' Jose Lizama in the bottom of the sixth and gashed their opponents with six runs off of a pair of triples Khobby Kaipat and James Aldan, a double by Mike Gabionza, and a base rip by Gayvan Uchau, mixed in with two walks and a pair of errors.

Lieto busted an RBI double and scored off a wild throw to try to keep things going for the Falcons, but Fielders pitcher Dayvin Ada recovered nicely from his stumble in the fifth.

Ada received the nod, but gave up six runs off three hits and six walks with four strikeouts. Fielders' starter Cody Kaipat gave up one unearned run and a hit in just over three com-

plete innings with six walks and

Jets I 17, D-9ers 3

six strikeouts.

The D-9ers' runs came early in the game before Jets II's Jonathan Villagomez stepped to the rubber to close the third inning with a 9-3 lead, built off of a tworun in the park homer by Shane Deleon Guerreo and some errors in the top half of the frame. Esiah Cruz came along for the ride.

The D-9ers offense ran into a wall after that point, while Jets II's hammered out six hits in the next two innings, highlighted by two more in the park blasts by Deleon Guerrero.

Villagomez dealt three hitless shutout innings with a walk and three strikeouts.

Deleon Guerrero swung 3-for-4 with five RBIs and three runs, while Cruz batted 3-for-3 with an RBI, three runs, and base on balls.

Hunters 15, Lions 5

The Hunters led it, 4-3, after three innings and surged ahead, 8-3, in the fourth off four hits. Jerome and Jonah Reves bagged RBI singles.

The Hunters went on to add five more runs in the fifth, thanks to some sketchy pitching and another pair from a triple by Jerome Reyes in the sixth frame

Jerome Reves batted 4-for-5 with three RBIs and four runs.

BIG LEAGUE Ol'Aces 21, Fielders 4

The Ol'Aces enjoyed a stout 9-1 lead after three innings and never looked back.

The Ol'Aces reloaded the bases in the second inning after an RBI double by Jake Santos, who set up an in the park grand slam by Leonard Sablan. Lemarc Iguel obliged with a solo in the park dinger before the Fielders could stop the bleeding.

The Ol'Aces added two runs in the third inning from a triple by Jacob Flores and a sacrifice fly by Santos, as Aces pitcher Harry Nakamura kept the Fielders in check from the mound.

In the fourth, the Ol' Aces exploded with a dozen runs off nine hits. The surge sprouted from a Keoni Lizama RBI single, followed by a Rocco Reyes a RBI triple, a two-run in the park homer by Flores, and a two-RBI single from Sablan. Lizama went on to crank an RBI triple and Flores a two-RBI single in their second at bats.

The Fielders only managed three runs in the fifth inning. Nakamura gave up two earned runs off three hits with five strikeouts.

Hustlers 7, Hunters 2

The Hustlers seized control early with three runs in the first inning off a double by MacGa-

rette Duenas, a triple by Jared

Ayuyu jacked a three-run homer

Berdax fired back with three

Man Amigos held it down decision.

Lizama, and an RBI base hit by Kevin Villagomez.

They added four runs by reloading the bases in the third after an RBI single by Brian Camacho and three-RBI triple by Villagomez.

Hunters' Lincoln Ingram came to the mound and kept the Hustlers at bay, however their offense struggled all night against Camacho. Camacho gave up two runs off four hits and two walks with nine strikeouts.

68-67-69 -204

Ken Duke

Chez Reavie

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division

Philadelphia 25 20 .556 **–** 23 21 .523 1 1/2 Boston 21 24 .467 New York 15 30 .333 10 Toronto

15 31 .326 10 1/2

Southeast Division

New Jersey

32 11 .744 29 16 .644 4 Orlando Atlanta 25 19 .568 7 1/2 Washington 10 33 .233 22 Charlotte 7 36 .163 25

Central Division

37 10 .787 -Chicago Indiana 25 18 .581 10 20 24 .455 15 1/2 Milwaukee Cleveland 16 28 .364 19 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division 29 14 .674 San Antonio Memphis Dallas 26 20 .565 4 1/2 24 21 .533 6 Houston 11 34 .244 19

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City 33 11 .750 -25 20 .556 8 1/2 Denver Utah 22 22 .500 11 22 23 .489 11 1/2 21 23 .477 12 Minnesota Portland

Pacific Division

28 16 .636 L.A. Lakers L.A. Clippers 25 18 .581 2 1/2 Golden State 18 24 .429 9 Sacramento 15 29 .341 13

Yesterday's Games

L.A. Clippers 95, Houston 91 Charlotte 107, Toronto 103 New York 102, Indiana 88 Chicago 89, Philadelphia 80 New Orleans 102, New Jersey 94 Denver 98, Boston 91 Utah 99, Golden State 92, OT Dallas 106, San Antonio 99

TRANSITIONS CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

PALM HARBOR, Florida (AP) - Scores Saturday from the Transitions Championship, a US PGA Tour event on the 7,340-yard, par-71 Copperhead course at Innisbrook Resort and Golf Club:

Third Round

Retief Goosen 69-68-65 -202 Jim Furyk 66-70-66 -202 Sang-Moon Bae 69-66-68 -203 Jason Dufner 66-66-71 -203 John Mallinger 72-66-66 -204

68-70-67 —205 70-67-68 —205 Ernie Els 67-68-70 —205 Luke Donald 71-69-66 -206 Shaun Micheel 67-72-67 -206 **David Toms** 64-74-68 -206 Will Claxton Kevin Streelma 68-69-69 -206 Jamie Lovemark Jeff Overton 70-67-69 -206 68-69-69 -206 68-69-69 -206 Webb Simpson Chris DiMarco 70-67-69 -206 68-68-70 -206 Sergio Garcia 66-70-70 -206 61-73-72 —206 69-71-67 —207 Padraig Harrington Charley Hoffman Robert Garrigus 67-72-68 -207 Gary Woodland 68-71-68 **—**207 70-68-69 -207 Bo Van Pelt Cameron Tringale 66-71-70 -207 66-71-70 -207 Jason Bohn George McNeill 67-68-72 -207 William McGirt 66-68-73 -207 69-72-67 -208 Jason Day 69-72-67 -208 71-70-67 -208 Arjun Atwal 70-70-68 -208 **Greg Chalmers Bud Cauley** 68-71-69 -208 71-68-69 -208 Kevin Na Kyle Reifers 70-68-70 -208 69-68-71 -208 Jerry Kelly 66-70-72 -208 Kenny Perry Chris Couch 67-68-73 -208 73-68-68 -209 Louis Oosthuizer Bill Lunde 68-73-68 -209 70-70-69 -209 Greg Owen 73-67-69 -209 69-71-69 —209 68-70-71 —209 Brian Davis Michael Thomps 69-72-69 -210 Robert Allenby Geoff Ogilvy 72-68-70 —210 Troy Matteson 70-69-71 -210 Jimmy Walker 70-69-71 -210 69-68-73 -210 Scott Piercy 73-68-70 -211 Kris Blanks Nick Watney 69-72-70 -211 69-72-70 -211 John Daly Joe Ogilvie 67-73-71 —211 Zach Johnson 71-68-72 -211 Justin Leonard 69-70-72 -211 67-71-73 -211 Bryce Molder Tom Gillis 72-69-71 -212 Marc Leishman 71-70-71 -212 Sunahoon Kana 68-73-71 -212 68-72-72 -212 Rory Sabbat Brian Gay 70-70-72 -212 Justin Rose 67-70-75 —212 71-70-72 —213 Vijay Singh Stewart Cink 67-74-72 -213 70-70-73 -213 James Driscoll 70-68-75 -213 Andres Romero Kevin Chappell 69-69-75 -213 70-71-73 -214 Charlie Wi J.J. Henry 70-71-73 -214 D.A. Points 69-72-73 -214 71-70-73 -214 K.J. Choi 71-70-74 -215 Michael Bradley Peter Hanson 70-70-75 **—**215 Jesper Parnevik 69-72-75 -216 Jonathan Byrd 72-69-76 -217 BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GAGU

From Page 28

run shots by Gagu Eyes' JR Brel and Iguel in the fourth inning.

Gagu Eyes then pulled ahead, 10-9, after the fifth with an RBI single by Jesus Iguel and a threerun home run by Tyrone Omar. The G-Ballers' Leo Blas left the yard in the top of the inning.

The G-Ballers then regained the lead, 11-10, in the sixth inning off of a two-run shot from Jude Dickinson, but drew a

blank in their final turn and allowed Gagu Eyes to take their first win in three games.

Ur Balls 11, Elias 8

Ur Balls established a 6-0 lead in the opening frame off an RBI single by Byron Kaipat, a sacrifice fly by Audie Maratita, and a two-run shot by Vince Sablan.

The count shifted to 10-2, after four innings as Ur Balls pulled a four-run string in the third frame from a solo homer by Kaipat, a two-run blast by John Maratita, and a

fielder's choice.

Ur Balls survived a trio of home runs by Elias's Jordan Tagabuel, Glenn Camacho, and Brian Nicholas in the fifth inning and held strong for the win.

Man Amigos 18, Berdax 5

Man Amigos jumped on top, 10-2, after two innings with RBI singles in the opening frame from Manny Sablan, Jeff Cabrera and Julian Camacho, a sacrifice fly by Joey Dela Cruz, and an RBI double by Roy Celis. Jerry

in the second inning after a pair of solo blasts by Berdax's Dave Camacho and Juan Taitano.

runs to start the third, but the reigning champions batted them down again with six runs in the bottom frame when Celis pounded an RBI double, John Terlaje hit a two-run homer, and Eric Palacios connected on an RBI single.

out in the field for the early

SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2012 **27**

Weekend Sports

race Christian
Academy, Whispering Palms,
and Tinian High
School posted the biggest wins
of the week.

The GCA Eagles topped the boys junior varsity division of the COPSSA caging, beating Mt. Carmel School in the finals, 35-34, while Whispering Palms prevailed in the girls division, slipping past the GCA Eagles, 16-15.

GCA, Whispering Palms, Tinian win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com

Whispering Palms managed to reclaim the girls JV championship it lost to Saipan International School last year, while GCA notched back-to-back titles in the boys division.

Joining the two private schools in the champions circle was Tin-

ian High School, which stunned its foes in the MISO caging, winning the varsity division crown against Marianas High School.

Still in basketball, regular season games in the DLX/Miller Lite caging continued with the Smart Cagers, Mobil,

QQ Car Rental, Sunrisers, and Shirley's Coffe Shop posting contrasting wins.

In badminton, the 2012 Tan Holdings Doubles Competition completed its elimination round games last week. Four teams each in the six divisions survived the elimination and played in the semifinals over the weekend.

In the Saipan Little League Baseball, the Braves, Comets, Falcons, JPO, and Rays won their separate games.

In football, MP United Silver

went 2-0 in the boys U15 spring league, while Paire and Tan Holdngs also prevailed in their respective matches. MP United and Paire also triumphed in the boys U18, while Shirley's beat Paire in the girls U15 league.

In off-island competitions, sprinter Rachel Abrams raced in the 60m run in the 13th IAAF World Indoor Championships in Istanbul, Turkey, while triathlete Mieko Carey joined the 2012 XTERRA Guam Championship.



The GCA Eagles pose with their championship trophy after beating Mt. Carmel School in the finals of the COPSSA junior varsity caging at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



ROSELVN R MONROYO

MP United Silver's Greg Sablan kicks the ball during their game against MP United Blue in the boys U15 league last week at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO The Sunrisers' Mel Manibusan, right, drives against SCS' Rocyl Ritual during their game in the DLX/Miller caging last week at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.



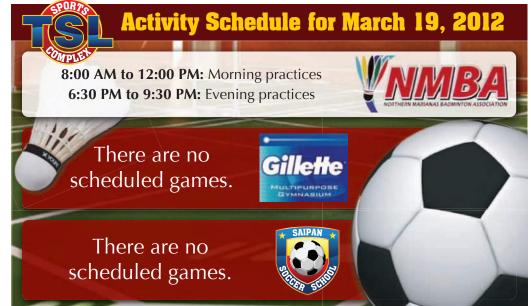
ROSELYN B. MONROYO Shirley's Badminton Club's Sam Jones makes a return during his and Glen Bultjens' men's doubles A game against Andreau Galvez and Rodwealth Espana in the Tan Holdings competition at the TSL Sports



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND Dandan Comets' Erik Cruz delivers a pitch to the Natibu Tanapag Falcons during their game in the Majors division of the SLLB at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.



Сомтявитер рното Mieko Carey, third left, poses with other finishers in last week's 2012 XTERRA Guam Championship.









SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2012

ewcomers crowned champio

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

aga Badminton Club's Midori Obi and Kazuko Sondheim capped their impressive tournament debut with a title win in the women's C division of the 2012 Tan Holdings Badminton Doubles Competition last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.



The Japanese pair won its first contest after sweeping the Berks Blazers' Jane Tupaz and Arlene Naguit in the finals, 21-15, 21-19. The newly crowned champions advanced to the finals after slipping past Saipan Badminton

Club's Esther Choi and Alma Ortega, 21-19, 21-17, while Naguit and Tupaz prevailed against Taga's Rose Lazaro and Irish Pagarao in the other semis game last Friday.

Midori and Sondheim drew first blood in the finale, as the former made good

See NEWCOMERS on Page 26

Jets I slips past Enforcers, 11-10

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND



Saipan Shipping Company's Jets I eked out an 11-10 victory over the DPS Dare Pro-

gram Enforcers during the Senior League game in the 2012 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Also on Saturday, the Senior League's IT&E Fielders defeated the Natibu Tanapag Falcons, 12-8, while Juan Santiago's Jets II bested the D-9ers, 17-3 last Thursday. Also prevailing in the Senior League match were the Rep. Eliceo D, Cabrera-Antonio Sablan Hunters, who defeated the Marianas Cable Vision-Rep. Ramon S. Basa-Frederick P. Deleon See JETS on Page 26



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Rep. Eliceo D. Cabrera-Antonio Sablan Hunters' Alex Monkeya pitches against Marianas Cable Vision Rep. Ramon S. Basa-Frederick P. Deleon Guerrero Kagman Lions during their Senior League game at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield last

Gagu Eyes outlast G-Ballers, 12-11

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com REPORTER



Gagu Eyes broke into the win column in the men's division of the Chamolin-SOFTBALL LEAGUE ian Softball Association's

2012 Budweiser Softball League after outclassing the G-Ballers, 12-11, last Wednesday at the Capital Hill Balfield.

Also on Wednesday, Ur Balls (1-1) defeated Elias (1-1), 11-8, while the defending champion Man Amigos (3-0) routed Berdax (2-1), 18-5. Notably,

just three rounds into the season, Man Amigos and the 2011 runner-up Natibu remain the only two undefeated squads in the 15-team field.

The G-Ballers held an early 5-1 favor after three innings off a two-run blast by Johnny Moses and some errors in the first inning. Gagu Eyes' Mike Iguel belted a solo shot in the bottom of the third frame.

The count shifted to 8-6, for the G-Ballers after a three-run long ball by Asap Ogomoro was answered by a pair of two-

See GAGU on Page 26



Taga Badminton Club's Midori Obi returns to Jane Tupaz and Arlene Naguit, while teammate Kazuko Sondheim gets ready for the next play during their women's C title game in the 2012 Tan Holdings Badminton Doubles Competition last Saturday at the TSL

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER



Hite Beer snapped its three-game losing skid after thwarting Smart Cagers/

Ali'i, 65-61, in the curtain raiser in the 2nd Domino Lux International Fraternity/Miller Lite Basketball Invitational Friendship League last Saturday night at the Gualo Rai Basketbal Court.

Hite Beer, which drew a lucky charm in its mix-and-match uniform (new bottom and old top), improved to a 3-5 record and remain in contention in the eight-team playoff round. Smart Cagers dropped to a 2-5 card and must win their last two games to keep their playoff bid alive.

Dexter Tenorio delivered clutch baskets for Hite Beer, making all his eight markers in the fourth quarter to halt Smart Cagers' rally.

Smart Cagers trailed by as much as 15 in the second quarter, but slowly sliced Hite's lead in the fourth, moving See HITE on Page 26

Hite Beer's Dexter Tenorio drives against Smart Cagers' Ron Gamboa during the closing minutes of their game in the DLX/Miller Lite caging last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

